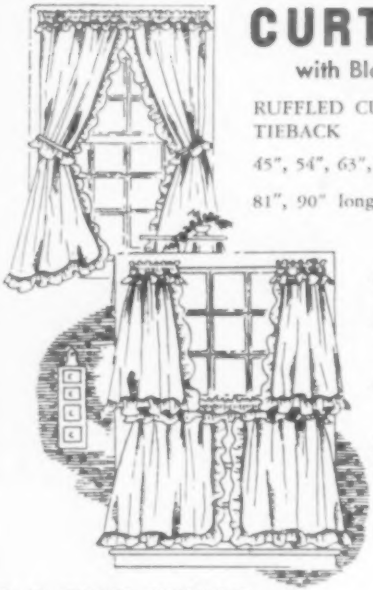
YANKEE

APRIL • 1961

35 CENTS



CURTAIN CHARM

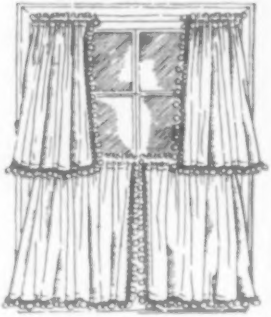
with Bleached or Unbleached Muslin

RUFFLED CURTAINS TIEBACK	Preshrunk Bleached (74" wide)	Unbleached (70" wide)
45", 54", 63", 72" long.....pair	$4.50	$4.00
81", 90" long .....pair	$5.00	$4.50

ALL PRICES POSTPAID

TIERS		
25", 30" 36" 40" long ..... pair	$3.50	$2.50
2 pair to window needed	$7.00	$5.00
MATCHING VALANCE	$1.50	$1.00

ALL PRICES POSTPAID



BALL FRINGE CURTAINS

	Bleached Drip-dry Muslin 74" wide	Unbleached Muslin 80" wide
TIERS		
25", 30", 36" 40", 45" .....pair	$4.00	$3.00
2 pair needed per window....	$8.00	$6.00
STRAIGHT		
54", 63", 72" long	$5.50 pr.	$4.50 pr.
81", 90" long	$7.00 pr.	$6.00 pr.
MATCHING VALANCE		
9" deep	$2.00 ea.	$1.50 ea.

ALL PRICES POSTPAID

For years clever New England housewives have made these charming BLEACHED and UNBLEACHED MUSLIN curtains for every room in the house. Now, you can buy them direct with all the original simplicity, warmth and hand-made look. Practical, long-wearing, these unusually attractive curtains of pure white and off-white muslin retain their crisp appearance with a minimum of care. **Write for illustrated brochure showing dust ruffles, pillow shams and other curtains including the burlap and floral prints.**

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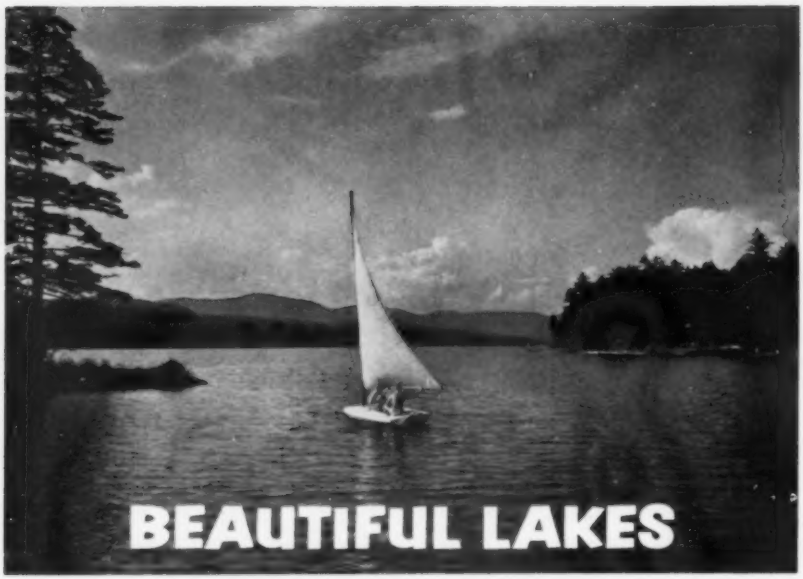

that's MAINE

Summer visitors tell us it's the fragrant aroma of the pines — Maine's friendly people, big uncrowded beaches, the warm days and cool nights. It's the fun they have sun bathing after a swim in the ocean or at a lakeside resort. Water skiing, boating and the thrill of catching a big salmon, trout and bass — *that's Maine*.

Many say that seeing plays with Broadway stars, an unusual gift at an antique shop, eating delicious lobster, blueberry pie and meals fit for a king — *that's Maine*.

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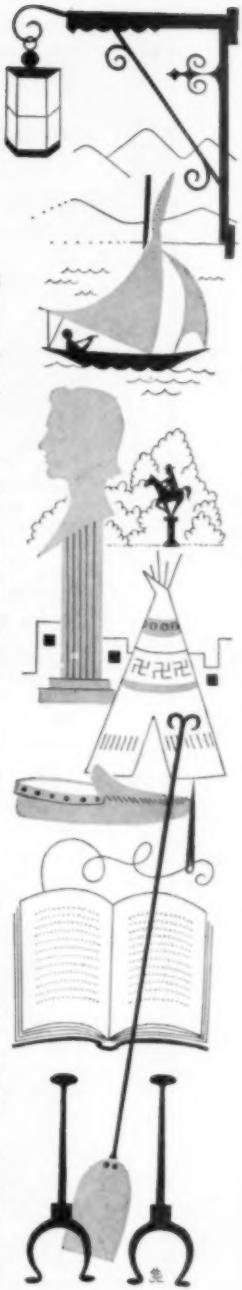
Maine Department of Economic Development

YANKEE

April, 1961



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Charcoal Gray	**$1.50 per yard**	**Brass or Old Gold**	**$2.10 per yard**
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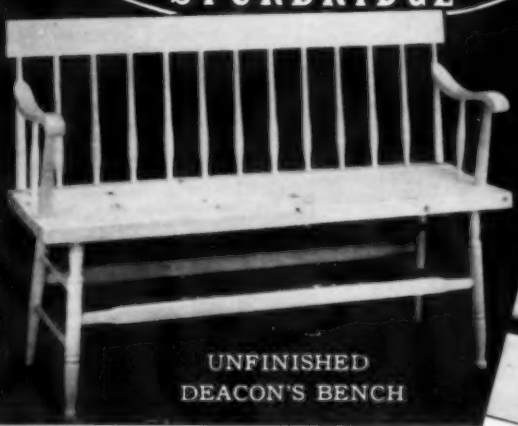

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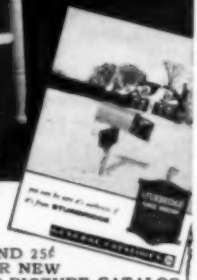

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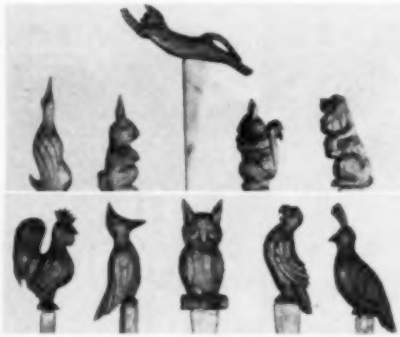

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Have land in Rhode Island. One lot on lake. Am looking for an old farm near skiing area which could be remodeled. A600 R. I.

Will swop our large, three bedroom, second floor apartment (maid available) on hill overlooking harbour in St. George's Bermuda, from about 23rd May to 10th July 1961, for use of motor car in New England, N. Y., N. J., & Pa. A601 N. Y.

Will swop 1953 Mercedes Benz 220 A in immaculate mechanical and body condition for 20-40 acres of Pasture and wooded land in South Eastern Vermont bordering plowed road. A602 Mass.

Scotts Standard Postage Catalog Singles Mint and used in Swop for United States plate blocks. A603 Mass.

Have a new yarn kit for child's hat, costume jewelry, and an old hat pin to swop for a costume doll. A604 Mass.

Have 33 superb color reproductions of flowers and gardens, painted by English artists, suitable for framing. 8"x10¾"—will swop for bulbs, plants, seeds; or oil paints, or new cotton material." A605 N. Y.

Have five acres land Mid-East location in Minnesota to swop for what have you? A606 Ill.

Swop vacations! Exchange our 3 room, winterized camp, electricity, ploughed road, in southern Vermont mountains, near ski resorts, fishing, hiking, for one week anytime this year. For your Southeastern summer beach home on coast or island. Immediate correspondence welcomed. A607 Penna.

Assorted old fashioned skates, horses overshoes, cigar ribbons, Indian gum cards. I would like souvenir or unusual spoons. A608 Mass.

Wanted—Usable Model T Ford parts or accessories. Will swop Reader's Digest Condensed Books 1956-1960. A609 N. H.

Antique post lamp that burns candles, Universal bread mixer, antique slide projector with slides, French marble clock, antique picture albums, large Kodak Camera uses 122 films. Make offer. A610 Mass.

Eastman Folding 3A Autographic camera, F 4-128 lens. Will swop for K-135 film. A611 Mass.

Have baby clothes, costume jewelry, girls patterns, size 1-4, dishes and many other items. A612 Ill.

Have two bird cages and stands, shoulder ensignias, new hand knit afghan. A613 Mass.

Wanted—Old fashioned Ice cream parlor tables, chairs and equipment. A614 R. I.

Have good violin for best offer. A615 Calif.

Will swop Delta 4" buzz planer, Delta 1/3 HP-110V motor and a heavy duty 110-220v motor for flintlock or precussion firearms. A616 N. Y.

Unmounted carved jade, set of jade cuff links and ear rings, antique jewelry sets, sterling silver smoking articles, unique aged Dutch snuff box. Want flintlock and percussion pistols, man's gold jewelry, ships model and orientalia. A617 N. Y.

Advertisements for the Swoppers' Column may be sent in by subscribers or non-subscribers for free publication here. There is a limit of one 4 line Swop per month; no Swop will be printed which lists coins, stamps or current books; no Swop may be made for cash. (Such items may be printed for 25c per word in the Trading Post.) We reserve the right to edit the wording or to refuse to print any Swop. All copy for The Swoppers' Column must reach us one month in advance of the issue you have in mind. To answer a Swop, enclose a plain stamped envelope for forwarding, addressed to the box number, and your answer will be forwarded. We do not divulge the names of Swoppers. Any unethical or unfair dealings become violations of the postal regulations and will be dealt with as such. Send all mail pertaining to Swopper, care of YANKEE, Dublin, N. H.

Will swop my silver plated copper wire earrings, bracelets or necklaces for watch-makers Loupe or glass. A618 N. Y.

Want glass in powder-and-shot design. A619 Tenn.

Have pendulum clock made by Brocot—Paris 1824 with Egyptionesque figures. Will swop for early American furniture. A620 Mass.

Have 35 years of National Geographics. Interested in fresh-water used Johnson or Evinrude motor with controls, 25 Hp. A621 R. I.

Will swop 13"0 playing card backs, mounted, all different, for string of sleigh bells. A622 Mass.

Wanted fish on spoons, buttons, buttonhooks, brass locks, etc. A623 Ind.

Have brand new vacuum cleaner, with buffer and carpet sweeper (never used). Will swop for tape recorder. A624 N. H.

Wanted: Fireman's antiques, auto items, prints, badges, medals, tokens. Have projector, slides, baseball items, music, radio, records, cards. A625 N. J.

Swop Brief Case 16" x 11" x 8", new nylon 6 ply tires for typewriter. A626 Ia.

Photo enlarger 35 mm to 2½ x 3½ wanted. Have used ¼ HP motors and washing machine parts. A627 N. Y.

Have two 8 mm movie cameras, 3 table model radios, new 17-jewel watch (man's), 16 mm sound projector, UHF converter, etc. A628 Mo.

Amana Upright freezer 600 lb. cap. late model for spinet piano, power tools. A629 R. I.

Fly-tying materials, hooks & feathers; Conn. historical pictorial maps; Railroad, Steamship timetables for other time tables, railroadiana, travel guides, Civil War information. A630 Conn.

Have hand-carved, ladies leather purse. Want button and Daisy vaseline glass. A631 Pa.

Have precision made magnifying glasses which clip onto regular glasses for very fine work, two beige acrylic twin size blankets with satin binding in very good condition, brass candlesticks, a Chesterfield type muskrat coat. A632 Conn.

Enlarger and other photo equipment for old revolvers or other old guns in working condition. A633 R. I.

Will swop cord wood saw with make or break engine for any antique small and old. A634 Mass.

Have Apollo 16 mm sound movie projector. A635 Vt.

Have watches and small alarm clocks (in need of repair); stamped articles to be embroidered; crocheted articles; winter and spring coats, dresses and blouses, all to fit size 12; and skirts size 26" waist. A636 N. Y.

New hand braided rugs for old fashioned dolls. A637 Mass.

Have pretty glass wine decanter, fancy plates, pin trays, cutglass and many other items for your old albums of postcards. A638 Minn.

Have old medical battery, also Stanley "45" adjustable hand moulding plane. Want Tandem bicycle, honey extractor, and photographic enlarger. A639 Md.

Wanted: Old issue playing cards. A640 Wisc.

Want old button hooks for my souvenir teaspoons. A641 Canada

(Continued on page 127)

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Your choice of copper or black baked enamel finish. Full 20" overall height, width 10⅝" Eagle finial, reinforced 3" collar, hinged side opening.

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SAYINGS of the ORACLE

►*Calif.: Dear Oracle:* I have a short piece I picked up some place and was wondering if you could supply the rest. W.F.N.

'Till the Wind an' sea went down a bit an'
The dawn came cold and grey,
An' we laid aloft an' loosed the sail an'
Squared the ship away,
An' a chap beside me on the yard says,
"Bill, it's Christmas Day!"

Answer: Dear Bill: We can't supply the rest, much as we'd like to. But we can publish your letter and the verse. Likely somebody will know all about it.

►*Mich.: Dear Oracle:* Will you please explain how extensively "pie for breakfast" is served in New England? A.M.

Answer: We can give you an opinion, but it is only an opinion, based on our own experiences in those sections where we lived and et breakfast. For the first thirty years of our life, breakfast without pie was unheard of. But as of today, the practice has pretty well died out in our bearings and for this reason: fresh fruit is available twelve months in the year which was not true years ago. The heft of people we know, and including ourself, enjoy an orange or grapefruit for breakfast and this is especially true as we don't have to do chores and milk a string of cows before we eat.

►*D.C.: Dear Oracle:* When my parakeet gets to batting his bells around I find myself saying, "That's right! Just give 'em what's for." I can remember my New England grandparents using that expression and I wonder if you know how "Give 'em what's for" originated? A.G.R.

Answer: You've got to delve into New England history a mite to understand this. Cussing, even moderately, was punishable under the law for quite a spell after the colonists arrived. Folks lost their tempers though, and spoke explosively, but fearing the pains and penalties, they invented substitutes for profanity. They said "darn" and "gosh-lang-it" and "I'll be hanged" and "Give 'em fits," or "Give 'em what's for." This last was probably a longer expression originally—we have heard oldtimers say, "Give em what's for tea," and also, "Give 'em some."

►*Texas: Dear Oracle:* Could you tell me where I could get history on the Cherokee Indians—especially the ones who lived in Alabama from 1850 to 1890? J.O.

Answer: There are probably many dealers in new and secondhand books who are very close to you, if you knew them. But we must recommend one who is close to ourself, being the only one we happen to know.

Borrowdale Bookshop of Edgartown, Massachusetts, can probably locate anything that was ever written, including the original Ten Commandments and The Lost Chord. Try 'em.

►*Wash.: Dear Oracle:* Thanks for answering my question about the jug. I realize that jugs serve different purposes. We have a cider jug which apparently is identical to yours but during cider season when ours gets clean empty, as yours seems to be, we take it along with us in the old car and drive up the road a piece to McKenzie's place and get it filled with nice fresh sweet cider. J.B.

Answer: Dear Joe: Sounds like a most convenient system. The trouble with us is that our jug had the bottom fall out.

(More Oracle this month — see page 92)

No letters answered except through this column. Watch for yours.

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And What a View!

HOUSE FOR SALE

[Yankee likes to mosey around and see, out of editorial curiosity, what you can turn up when you go home hunting. We have no stake in the sale whatsoever and would decline it if offered.]

WE'VE FOUND A SIX-YEAR-OLD, SIX ROOM, compact, country home in Bellows Falls, Vermont, with a 40-mile panoramic view (see below) of the Connecticut River Valley! Sound good? Well, here are some details: automatic oil heat and instant hot water system; full basement with ground entrance for future game room; oak floors throughout; copper piping; sunny yellow cabinet kitchen, separate dining room, living room done in soft gray and three bedrooms plus bath with shower; black top driveway; and a lovely sloping front lawn—perfect for barbecues or simply enjoying the view and good Vermont air!

The lot (100′ size with more land available) is within walking distance of public and parochial schools as well as churches, municipal swimming pool, ski tow and tennis courts. It's only about a one hour drive to four major ski areas.

The asking price is $14,000. For more details write Mr. Harry A. Morrison, Griswold Drive, Bellows Falls, Vt., or call HOmestead 3-3276.

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NOTES The Tavern is now suitable for a residence or shop. Fire damaged interior needs redecorating and some renovating. Year-round cottage is modern.

Also 2 sty. barn garage with apartment.

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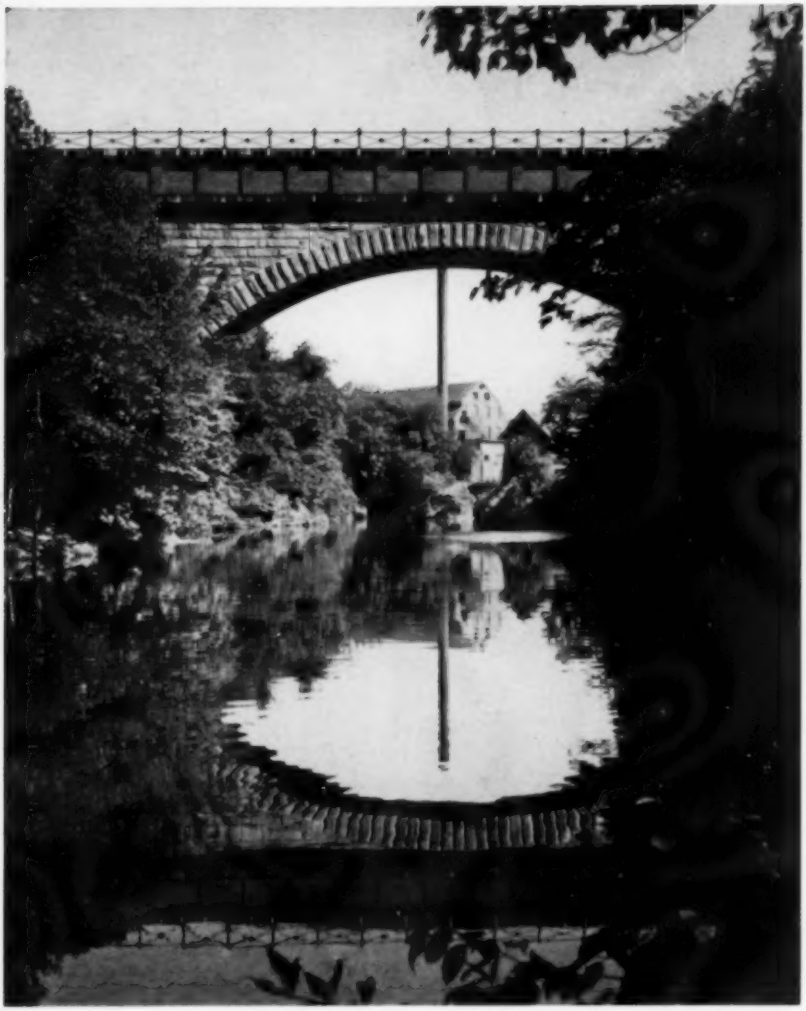


Echo Bridge over Hemlock Gorge, Newton Upper Falls, Mass.▲

Next page: Off Point Judith, Rhode Island.

◄Civil War Memorial, Williams College, Williamstown, Mass.

She refused a fortune of 15c . . . "Who wants to be rich and pay big taxes," she told him. All she really wanted was . . .

a

Place to Run!

He found her in the middle of the city, sitting on the curb with a small bag of popcorn. Her eyes were closed and she was shaking her head. "Anything the matter?" he asked.

She looked up. "Who wants to know?"

He put his briefcase down and took some small change from his suitcoat pocket. "If you'd like to find out who *I* am," he said, "the name is Jorgenson. I'm over thirty years old, if that means anything to you; I work here in the city and I live outside it. Would fifteen cents help you feel better?"

She sighed. "It isn't money. Who wants to be rich and pay big taxes? That's what Mr. Caster says, anyway."

"Who's Mr. Caster?"

"He's my guardian. I guess that means he guards me till I come of age. If I ever do. From what he tells me, I'm not even close."

"How old *are* you?"

"Eight. And I just finished the third grade, if you want to know about *that*."

"I'd rather know what's troubling you. It's not every girl who turns down a fifteen-cent fortune."

"It's running. I don't get to do it." She sniffed at the popcorn, then added with dignity: "And please don't laugh."

"I won't. But I'm not sure I understand."

"I feel all cooped up. Just once I'd like to be able to run and run as far as I wanted."

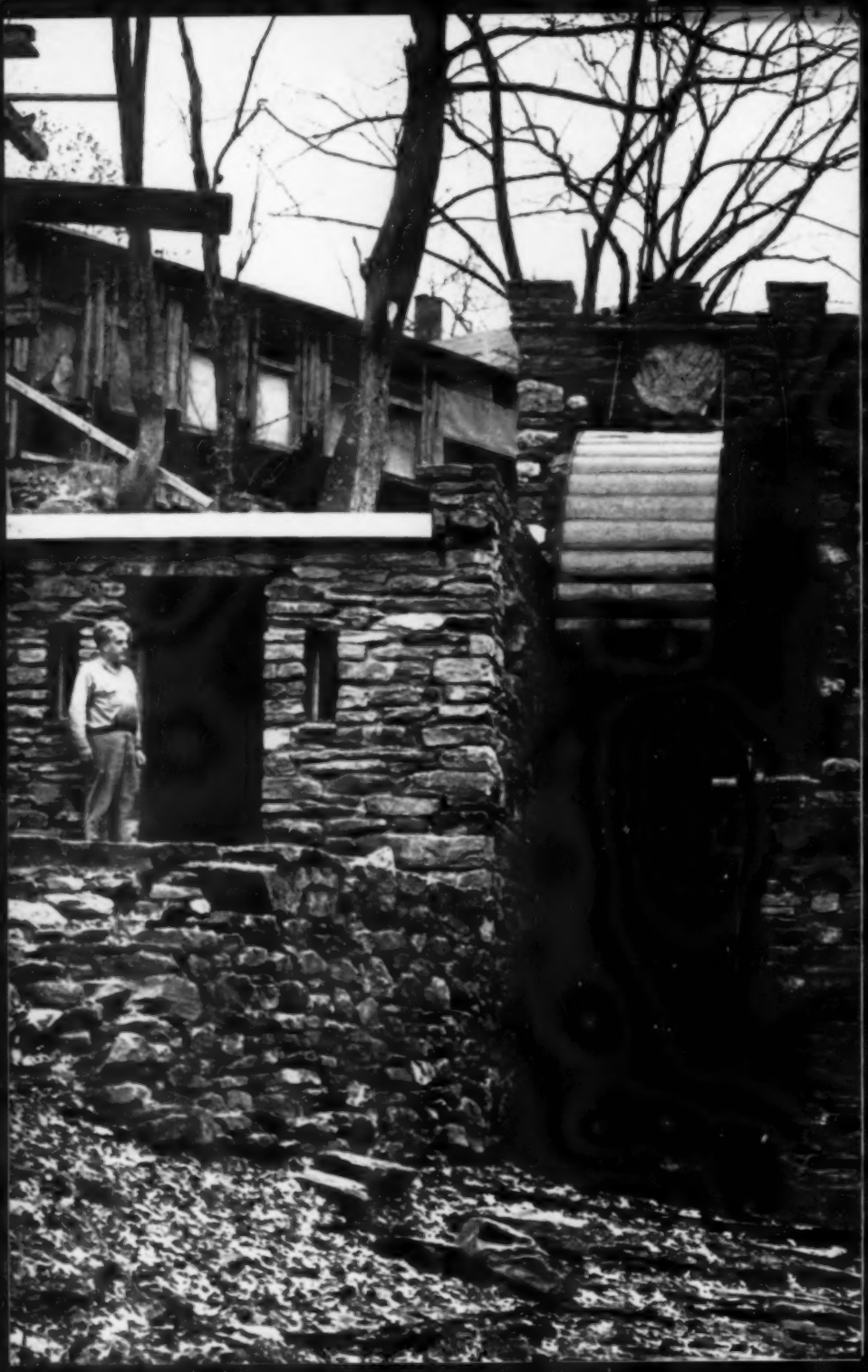
"Well, why don't you?"

She shook her head again. "Where? Across the street, along the sidewalk? Too many cars and people to bump into. The schoolyard's too dinky and crowded and gravelly. Just where am I supposed to run?"

"I see. I don't mind telling you I'm astonished. It somehow never occurred to me that (*Continued on page 82*)

Illustration by Hamilton Greene

by William Sayres



A Wheel of Independence

by L. F. Willard

Ralph McLeod, who lives on a forty-five-acre farm in North Coventry, Connecticut, is an independent Yankee who not only raises beef cattle as a hobby, but doesn't even have to have power lines supply his house with electricity and needs no fuel truck stopping at his door.

Thanks to the Skungamaug river running through his property, McLeod can generate all the power he can use, including enough to heat the ten-room stone "castle" which serves him as a house. McLeod, fortunately, is an electrical maintenance foreman at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft in East Hartford,

(*Continued*)

Panoramic view of the waterwheel installation and dam owned by Ralph McLeod (shown far left and above).

and able to do his own installing of waterwheel and generator.

Actually, the farm which McLeod bought a dozen years ago includes within its boundaries a grist mill some 150 years old and a good mill pond. The former owner had already installed a 17 kilowatt direct current generator powered by a turbine and it worked very well. McLeod, however, had to buy alternating current to run his refrigerator and other appliances, using the direct current for light and heat. Also, the turbine requires a heavy flow of water which it doesn't always get during the dry summer months.

McLeod decided to install a big overshot waterwheel in addition to the turbine, to drive a 30 kilowatt alternating current generator. This would give him more than enough power for all his appliances and he wouldn't have to worry about low water, since this type of waterwheel is very efficient and delivers full power with only a trickle of water.

Last year he began the work of clearing out the river bed and collecting field stone. With the help of his brother, brother-in-law and a Coventry stonemason, McLeod built a stone structure to house the waterwheel, shaft, gears and generator. Meanwhile he ordered the twenty-foot diameter four-foot wide steel waterwheel from a small Pennsylvania factory. It arrived in Coventry in pieces and McLeod trucked it to his farm and assembled it. Another big job was the construction of a 100 foot long penstock of twenty-four-inch pipe to bring the water to the standpipe and up to the top of the wheel.

The wheel and gearing are complete and in operation, and the generator, which was being overhauled by McLeod as this was written, probably is in operation. The wheel turns at a stately six revolutions per minute developing about thirty horsepower. Gears convert the slow wheel speed to 1200 revolutions per minute at the generator.

Besides generating his own power and raising beef cattle, McLeod keeps bees and has a sizeable garden. How independent can you get? END

▲ *Inside his new power house, McLeod works on the spur gear attached to his waterwheel.*

◄ *The McLeods' 10-room "castle"—a stone, English-type house with turrets and ivy.*

▼ *Mrs. McLeod reads by light supplied by her husband's power plant. Note heater, too.*

Road to the Sky

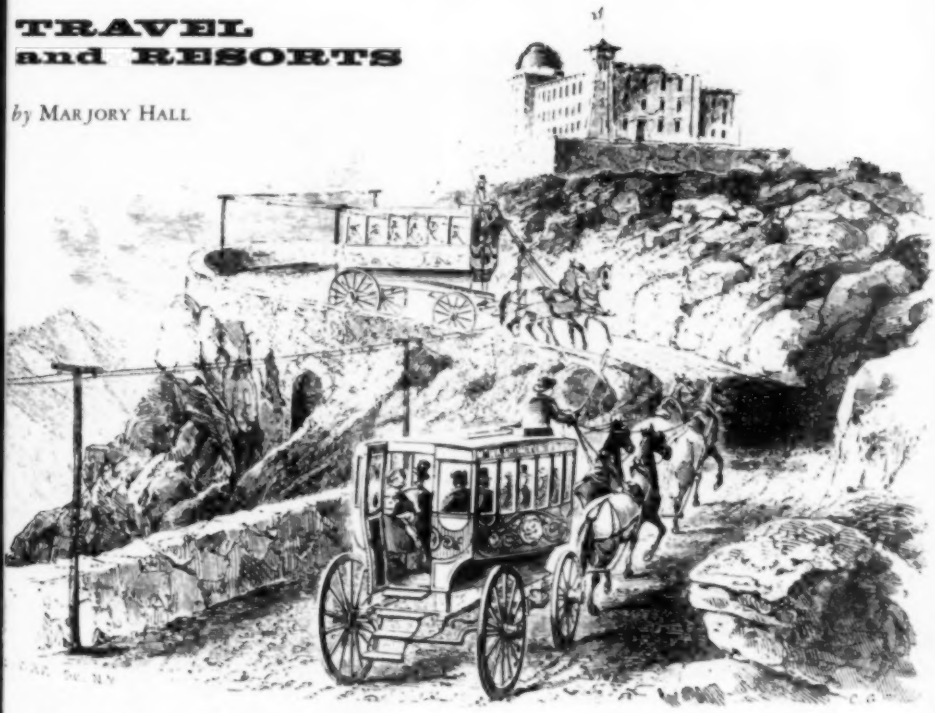
Spring on the Mount Washington Summit Road often looks like this—taken in 1957.

The Summit Road from above the tree line. The road will be 100 years old in August.

TO THOSE OF US WHO ARE MORE OR LESS CALM ABOUT reading headlines that have to do with men and monkeys taking off for the moon, a road that rises some 4,700 feet with an average grade of 12 per cent may not seem a staggering project, but a hundred years ago it was considered quite an enterprise. And so it was. Men and horses carried every bit of material, in those pre-bulldozer days, and like an army of ants they busily shuttled up and down the forbidding slopes to create the Mount Washington Summit Road. Eight miles long and eight years in the making, the Mount Washington Carriage Road, as it was originally called, celebrates its hundredth birthday in August of this year and, difficult as it is to imagine our highest New England peak without benefit of the Summit Road,it is still surprising to realize that it's been around for a full century. Its history has a familiar ring, playing the old tune of "financial difficulties."

TRAVEL and RESORTS

by MARJORY HALL

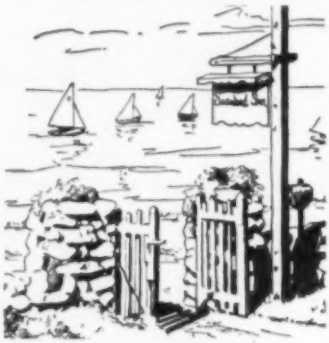


About 1855 an elaborate hotel on Mt. Washington's summit as well as omnibus-type carriages (described on the next page) were planned as shown in this old line drawing.

The Mount Washington Road Company was chartered July 1, 1853, with a capital of $50,000 and surveys were begun at once for the road which was at first contracted at a price of $8,000 a mile. In 1856 the capital of the Company was increased, but in 1857 the financial difficulties took over and work stopped for a while with the road reaching a point just beyond the halfway house. This was then called "The Ledge" and is now known as "The Horn," and is located about four miles from the Glen House. In 1858 the legislature extended the time of completion to August 1, 1861, which was a mere week before the formal opening of the Road. In the early part of the year, a Boston newspaper reported on the progress of the project:

"The Mount Washington Road Company is now pushing the work of grading up the mountain as rapidly as possible. Between two and three miles are finished and the whole is to be (*Continued on next page*)

RECOMMENDED BY DUNCAN HINES



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ON THE OCEAN
For a Holiday you'll always remember
May 26 - Oct. 16. Telephone Kingswood 6-6792
Anne and Roger Cameron
ROCKPORT 2, Mass'tts

ANCHOR
SUMMER APARTMENTS
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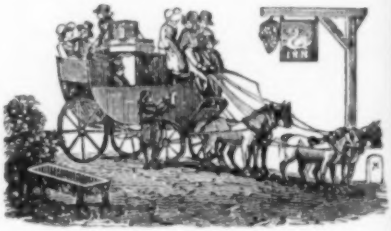
(on the northwest shore of two mile long)
GARDNER LAKE, Colchester 4, Connecticut
Lake Front Modern Housekeeping Cottages with Boats. Handy to Long Island Sound Attractions, yet located in a beautiful shady grove on a clean lake for swimming and boating. Safe beach for children. No traffic hazard. Playground with shuffleboard and softball field. Excellent fishing, trout stocked. Free Brochure. Francis C. Bailey, Owner, Hartford CH 2-9278; In Season, Norwich TU 7-4695.

completed this fall. The carriages, of which we have just seen a model, are to be of omnibus form, each to hold twelve persons. The vehicles are to be drawn by four horses. The passengers will not sit facing each other, nor facing the front, but halfway between these two positions. A separate seat is arranged for each passenger and each carriage has only twelve seats inside. The body of the carriage is so arranged as to always keep the body on a level. The brake is so applied to the wheels as to ensure perfect safety, being operated much in the same way as railroad car brakes. The only difference is that these are moved by the feet of the driver instead of by his hands. A safety strap passes up into the carriage and by a ring lying on the bottom, the motion of the horses may be arrested by any one of the passengers, if necessary. These carriages are to be built by Downing and Son of Concord." (We hope no joker ever thought it would be fun to yank on that safety strap!)



There was the expected rivalry in the matter of who should be the first man to ride to the summit. A Mr. Hitchcock, proprietor of the Alpine House, and a Mr. Thompson, his opposite number at the Glen House, feuded and fumed. Although they were good friends, they were business competitors, and when word got around that Mr. Hitchcock was determined to win the first-man-to-the-top contest by riding up the road in the dead of night, Mr. Thompson hitched up a light wagon and before the road was actually finished made the trip to the bitter end. He later admitted that it took two men to keep the wagon right side up.

On the opening day, August 8th, the first Concord stagecoach, filled with thrilled and excited passengers, was driven to the summit. For some reason, not until 1899 was a big coach used again; on that occasion Keith was making a biograph picture and a tally-ho type of vehicle, the first of

(*Continued on page 34*)

PEG LEG

"with the tang of the sea"

RESTAURANT

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Modern Hotels, Inns, Guest Houses; Excellent Restaurants

For illustrated Booklet write:

Nantucket Information Service, Nantucket 14, Mass.

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A small beautifully restored inn in lovely hill and lake country, 6 mi. from Old Sturbridge Village. American plan or dinner in leisure. Closed Mon. except for house guests. By RESERVATION ONLY. Brochure. Write: THE LUSKS, R.F.D. 2, Southbridge, Mass. Tel.: Brimfield CHurchill 5-7728

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Delightful spot overlooking lake, well equipped attractively furnished 5-rm. house with sunporch. Ideal for family 4-6. Elec. kitch., tub/shower, TV, canoe. (no linens). Three min. dr. to excel. safe beaches, churches, and golf course. 2 wk. min. or longer July-August. $90 per wk. R. SPARHAWK, 25 Irving Ter., Cambridge 38, Mass., After 6 P.M. UNiversity 8-8285.

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MIDDLEFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
Overlooking the Berkshire Hills
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April and May are excellent months to spend in Florida. Rates are lower, driving more comfortable, and you return home to more desirable weather. An apartment which would cost you $300 for March can be had in April for $120; $50 for May; or $150 for the two months. For information or reservation, address Page Apartments, 830 South "N" Street, City of Lake Worth, Florida.

On Lake Winnipesaukee, N. H.
Modern housekeeping cottages; sandy beach, safe for children; boats available. For information write
EDWIN MICKELSON
1181 W. Boylston St. Worcester 6, Mass.

its kind to be used on the mountain, carried crew and equipment to the top.

From 1861 to 1869, the carriage road prospered. Regular stage lines were established, and the guests staying at all nearby hotels made the famous trip as a matter of course. It was an age of riding, rather than of hiking, and the Glen House, for example, often sent as many as fifty guests up the road in carriages on a good day. In 1869 progress, in the form of the Mount Washington railway, made inroads on the business of the carriage road.

Even though the general public was apathetic in the matter of using its feet, there had been a few rugged individuals who made the climb in the fifties. For instance, a 230-pound woman named Branch walked from the Glen to the summit and back in 1855, to win a bet. She won the $1,000 all right and furthermore she danced at the Glen that very evening. In 1857 A. S. Walker of Boston walked to the top of the mountain barefooted. A few days later George N. Dana of Boston counted his steps to the summit. There were 16,925, he said.

After the completion of the Carriage Road, there was the inevitable scramble for records, with many claimed but very few officially timed. There was the "Modern Mercury" of Mount Washington, one Edgar Welch of South Windham, who made an annual trip along the carriage road, clad in rough and heavy cowhide boots, a loose baggy suit, and an enormous stovepipe hat. With one timer at the Glen, to record his triumphant finish, and another at the summit, he dashed madly downhill as fast as his legs could carry him. His record, made

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EAST NORTHFIELD MASS.

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Leave everyday routine behind; enjoy a few days, a week or longer at this charming country inn.
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or write — A. Gordon Moody, Manager
EAST NORTHFIELD 30, MASS.

when he was fifty-two years old, is said to have been fifty-five minutes for the downward eight miles.

Mr. Welch's record was broken in 1904 by George S. Foster of Manchester, New Hampshire, who descended in forty-two minutes. Two weeks later the same hardy gentleman walked and ran up the Road to the summit in an hour and forty-two minutes.

Although the average time for teams to make the climb from the Glen to the summit was about four hours, in 1882 a party made it in 2 hours and 3 minutes; in 1883, the time was reduced to 1 hour and 17 minutes; and in 1887, 1 hour, 9 minutes, 47 seconds. What is a record for but to be knocked over?

The first car made the ascent on August 31, 1899—a Stanley Locomobile, in which Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Stanley of Newton soared to the top in 2 hours and 10 minutes (doing almost as well as the teams!). In 1904 and 1905 automobile "climbs to the clouds" were held, with all records broken in 1905 by W. M. Hilliard, who drove a Napier up in 20 minutes, 58-2/5 seconds, while at the same time a motorcycle record of 20 minutes, 59-4/5 seconds, was established. The progress of the automotive industry makes itself felt in succeeding records, because in 1922 the time was reduced to 17 minutes, in 1928 to 14 minutes and 49-3/5 seconds, and in 1938 12 minutes, 17.6 seconds, which stands today. Without mechanical improvements, men picked up a little speed too, because in 1938 Francis Darrah of Manchester, New Hampshire, ran up the road in 1

(Continued on next page)

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GLOUCESTER, MASS.

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IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ENJOY

* the privacy of your own efficiency cottage on the Canal where you have the foreign shipping—the sea breezes — AND — the BEST fishing on the EAST COAST
* Swimming in our natural lake fed pool
* Famous summer theatres—shops—beaches nearby
* Historical Plymouth, Provincetown and Boston 1½ hrs.
* Weekly N.E. chowder get-acquainted party

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Bournedale—R.F.D. Buzzard's Bay, Mass.
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SANDWICH VILLAGE
CAPE COD
Rental — Barn Apartment

Accommodate 2 or 3 all facilities. Central location by month or seasonal.

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The Inn
"Rockport on Cape Ann"
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A gracious old New England Inn—with secluded gardens—accommodating approximately 28 guests. Serving Breakfast and Dinner in a quiet friendly atmosphere. Near beach and village.

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J. W. PERRY — 7 SEABROOK ROAD
1 Room Private Bath—2 single Rooms with Bath in Ranch Type Home Away from Traffic in Pine Grove—Walking Distance to Beach.

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Simple BREAKFAST Included
May, June, July, August, September

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Early June to Mid-October
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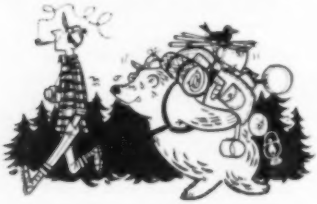
BETHEL 22, MAINE

On Routes 2, 5, 26 and 35

Camp In Comfort!



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PAPOOSE POND CAMPING AREA COTTAGE COLONY, Box 106, Norway, Maine.

hour, 15 minutes and 27.4 seconds.

The Road even serves as a jigsaw piece in the complex picture of national defense, in spite of the fact that winters way up there at the top are severe and Arctic-type storms of great intensity hit the peak without warning. A crew is maintained in the U. S. Armed Forces arctic laboratory, and rugged snow-cat vehicles make weekly trips to carry to them and to the personnel of the Mt. Washington TV station needed supplies.

Records, stunts and utility aside, the trip to the top of our highest point is worth any amount of effort—of which, of course, none is required since your car purrs up the ascent without a tremor. Join the hundred-year parade of hikers, racers, carriages, stagecoaches, buses, private cars, bicycles, motorcycles, jeeps, snow-cats and Weasels.

During this centennial year all sorts of events are planned in the area, to please visitors of all ages. And the Road itself: from the beginning to the Halfway House you wind through a primeval, rugged forest, with the White Mountain National Forest extending for miles in every direction. Beyond the halfway mark you're above the tree line, and can see the unmatched panoramic view of surging mountain peaks sharply gashed with valleys. The highest peak north of the Carolinas and east of the Mississippi, Mount Washington looms 6228 feet into the sky. In clear weather, the Adirondacks, 125 miles west in New York State, can be seen, as can Vermont, Canada and Maine. Mount Washington is appropriately known as "the roof of New England," and its Road provides a fitting and spectacular staircase. ●

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A seacoast resort featuring activities for all the family. Lodge and Cabins. Natural setting. Informal. Our own fleet of sailboats. Chris-craft powerboat, water skiing, fishing, boating, swimming, tennis, canoeing, shuffleboard, television.

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5 miles at sea on an un-commercialized island. Family hospitality, picnicing, hiking, lazing. Home cooked foods. Public dining room. Cheerful rooms. Reservations suggested.

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The OCEAN POINT Inn and Cottages

A charming seacoast inn directly on the ocean at picturesque "Fisherman's Passage." Real "Down East" hospitality, complete relaxation, informal. Home-cooked foods. Modern rooms. $10 to $15 daily per person including all meals.

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Charming Colonial Motel right on the ocean. Large units, luxurious appointments, central steam heat, free Continental breakfast.

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AAA

Varied boat trips from the wharf. 12 minutes to all Boothbay Harbor activities. Churches nearby.

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Modern, secluded housekeeping cottages, 6 miles from **CAMDEN, MAINE.** Catering to family groups. Folder on request. MR. AND MRS. JACK I. LORD, Hope, Maine.

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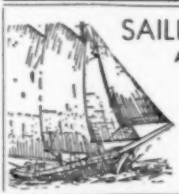

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No extra or tips
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Lodge & Cottages on Pearly Lake
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Ownership-Management
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ENJOY good food, comfortable rooms, Restful Surroundings.
Write for reservations and rates

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AT BASE OF GRAND MONADNOCK MT.
A delightful, homelike place to spend a vacation. Ideal for families. 431 acres. Natural swimming pool. Lawn sports, tennis, hiking. Cocktails. $57-$84 weekly with meals, also children's rates.
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Open winter weekends.
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Rust Pond Cottages
(Named after the Rust family)
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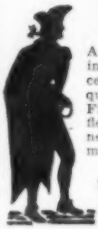

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THIS NEW ENGLAND #58

by PAUL A. DARLING

A Crossroad Reverie

While wholly involved in the complex living structure arrived at through today's advanced technology, modern New Englanders nonetheless look backward with interest and inspiration to the simpler yet equally vital way of life of their Yankee forebears.

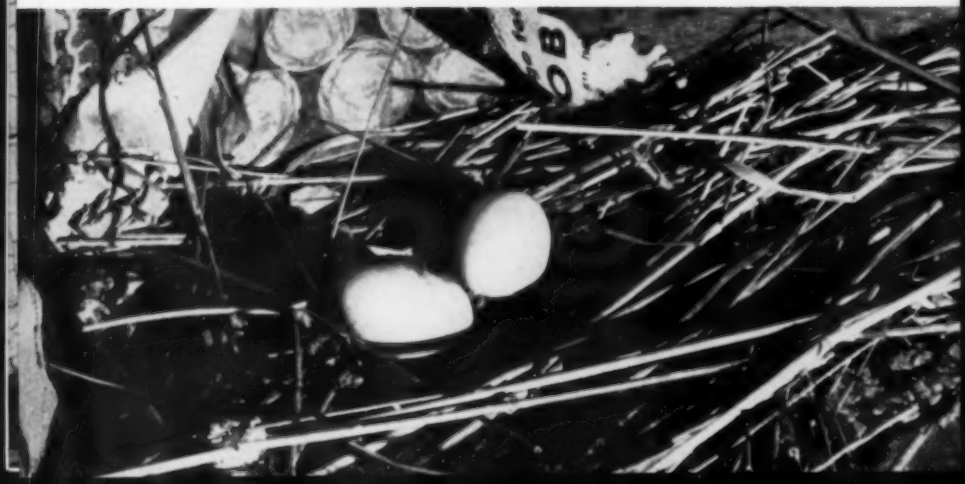
"I'm glad for our new schools and centers," we hear, "but, you know—I still love to remember the old ways—and the old houses."

On these and the next six pages is a personalized glance at one household in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, which has reached the crossroads—one that has made the transition into a new pattern of culture and economy but lost its vital identity in the turnover. Soon it will be traded for a flowing stretch of highway . . .

No one has sunned by the doorway in this chair for many years. Yet, nearby, the fruit of past labor hangs bright and full each season (right).

The heavy texture on an inside door knob; a boiler gauge (top) with lettering of an old Boston firm—waiting, waiting . . .

"We dug potatoes by hand from the furrows after a plow turned the earth," recalls one Jesse Brown — who was born within these walls. His father, Augustus Brown, was a highly successful dairy and crop farmer here. Now pigeons nest undisturbed in a bedroom closet.

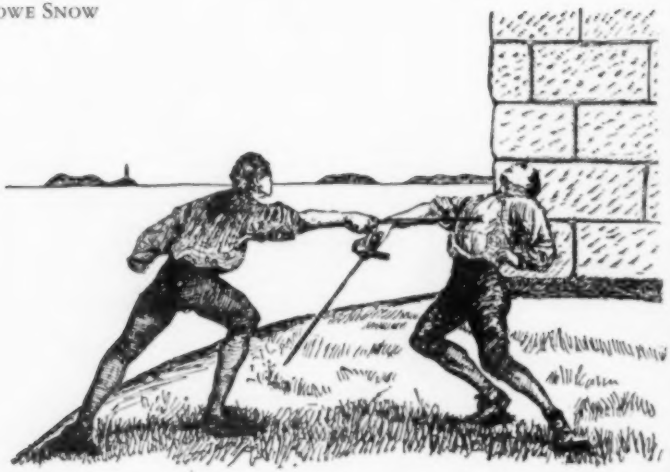


"I remember my father saying the house was 100 years old," says Jesse, "but that was 30 years ago." The place has been deserted since 1948 except for the rare visitor, like this curious lad, who crosses the ancient threshold to gaze in for a moment and move on.

There's an air of finality in the wire which has retreated to the fence posts—now that the herds have strayed forever.

Finality denotes a beginning, too, and in the signs of the highway surveyors—or perhaps simply in doorstoop flowers—this can be felt. Augustus Brown's children have prospered, their rigorous background here is their strength today—and the memory of it belongs to us all. END

by EDWARD ROWE SNOW



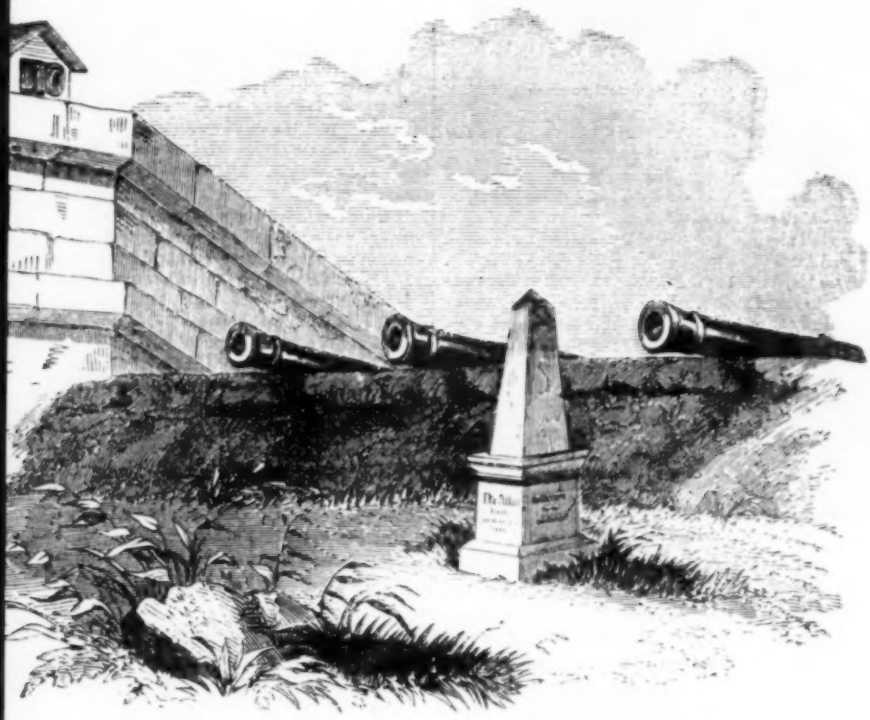
THE ROVING SKELETON OF BOSTON BAY

EDGAR ALLAN POE'S GREATEST WORK IN THE SHORT STORY field is said by many to be *The Cask of Amontillado*, the tale of a man's being walled up alive.

It is not generally known that Poe was a New England Yankee. Born in Boston on January 19, 1809, this master of mystery and atmosphere became a private in the army in 1827, and was sent out to Fort Independence on Castle Island in Boston Harbor. Actually, were it not for Poe's serving at Castle Island, *The Cask of Amontillado* would never have been written.

While at Fort Independence Poe became fascinated with the inscriptions on a gravestone on a small monument outside the walls of the fort. He

A fatal duel results in quiet, ghastly revenge.



decided to return and copy the inscription when he had enough time off.

One Sunday morning he arose early and visited the sloping glacis of the fort, where he sat down and copied with great care the entire wording on the marble monument. The following inscription was recorded from the western side of the monument:

The officers of the U. S. Regiment of Lt. Art'y erected this monument as a testimony of their respect & friendship for an amiable man & gallant officer.

Then he moved to the eastern panel, where he inscribed in his notebook the famous lines from Collins' ode: (*Continued on next page*)

Above is the scene of the 1817 Massie-Green duel, marked by a gravestone, as it looked to an artist in 1855. On the opposite page is the author's interpretation of the duel.

◄ *The author (left) doing a 1946 radio program outside the walled-up inner dungeon.*

"Here honour comes, a Pilgrim gray,
To deck the turf, that wraps his clay."

After resting briefly, he attacked the northern side of the edifice, and then copied the fourth panel facing South Boston:

Beneath this stone are deposited the remains of Lieut. ROBERT F. MASSIE, of the U. S. Regt. of Light Artillery.

Near this spot on the 25th, Decr, 1817, fell Lieut. Robert F. Massie, Aged 21 years.

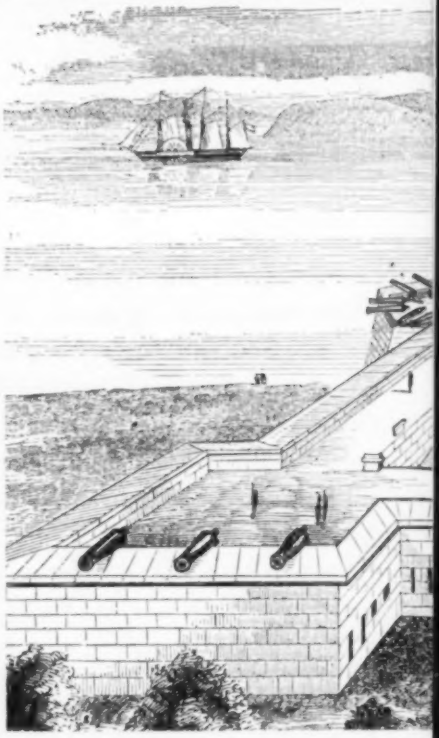
Extremely interested in the wording of the fourth panel, which said "Near this spot fell" Lieutenant Massie, he decided to find out all he could about the duel. Interviewing every officer at the Fort, he soon learned the unusual tale of the two officers and their fatal combat.

During the summer of 1817, Poe learned, twenty-year-old Lieutenant Robert F. Massie of Virginia had arrived at Fort Independence as a newly appointed officer. Most of the men at the post came to enjoy Massie's friendship, but one officer, Captain Green, took a violent dislike to him. Green was known at the fort as a bully and a dangerous swordsman.

When Christmas vacations were alloted, few of the officers were allowed to leave the fort, and Christmas Eve found them up in the old barracks hall, playing cards. Just before midnight, at the height of the card game, Captain Green sprang to his feet, reached across the table and slapped Lieutenant Massie squarely in the face. "You're a cheat," he roared, "and I demand immediate satisfaction!"

Massie quietly accepted the bully's challenge, naming swords as the weapons for the contest. Seconds arranged for the duel to take place the next morning at dawn.

Christmas morning was clear but bitter. The two contestants and their seconds left the inner walls of the fort at daybreak for Dearborn Bastion. Here the seconds made a vain attempt at reconcilia-



tion. The duel began. Captain Green, an expert swordsman, soon had Massie at a disadvantage and ran him through. Fatally wounded, the young Virginian was carried back to the fort, where he died that afternoon. His many friends mourned the passing of a gallant officer.

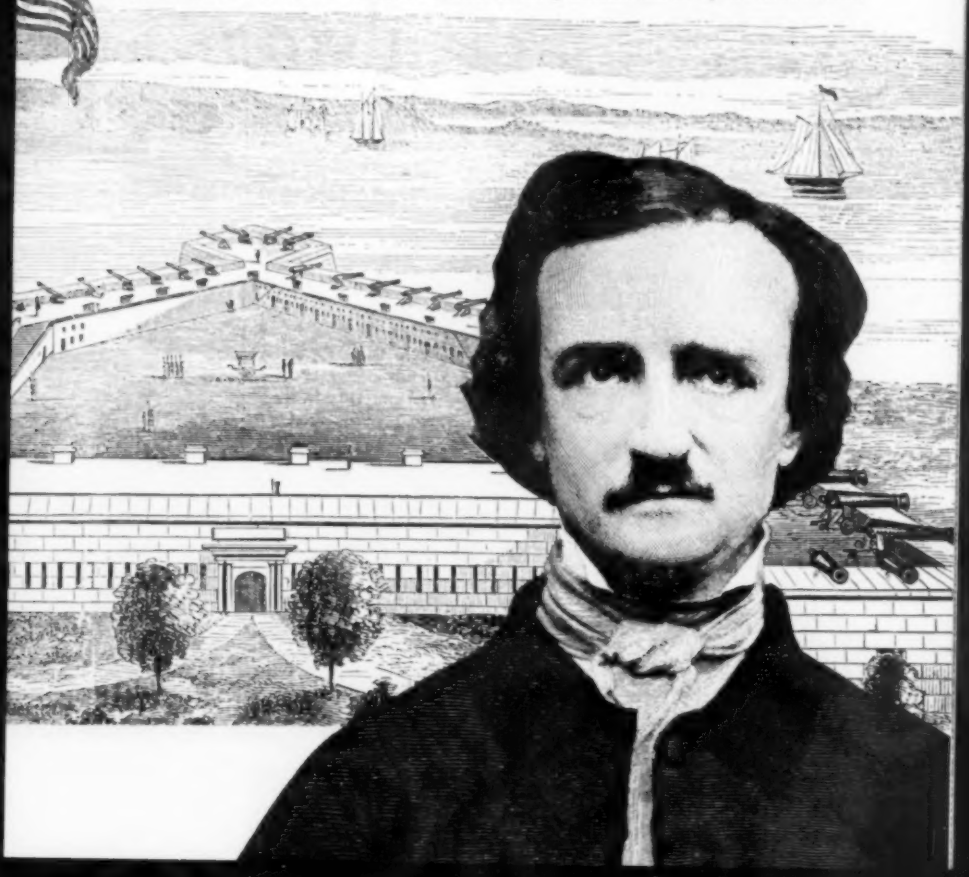
A few weeks later a fine marble monument was erected to Massie's memory. Placed over his grave at the scene of the encounter, the monument reminded all who saw it that an overbearing bully had killed the young Virginian.

Feeling against Captain Green ran high for many weeks, and then suddenly he completely vanished. Years went by without a sign of him, and Green was written off the army records as a deserter.

According to the story which Poe finally gathered together, Captain Green had been so detested by his fellow officers at the fort that they decided to take a terrible revenge on him for Massie's death. They had learned that the captain had killed six other men in similarly staged duels and that not one of the victims had been at fault! Gradually their hatred toward the despicable bully grew, until Massie's friends, enraged by Green's continual boasting, determined to take a life for a life.

Visiting Captain Green one moonless night, they pretended to be friendly and plied him with wine until he was helplessly intoxicated. Then, carrying the captain down (*Continued on page 109*)

In 1827 Edgar Allan Poe, below, served in the army at Ft. Independence in Boston Harbor (background). There he managed to uncover the gruesome details of the Massie duel.



Miss Jones Writes a Library!

by LAURIE HILLYER

In recognition of National Library Week, here is what one library, in Mason, N. H., has done to help children "wake up and read!"

● THE LIBRARY IN MASON, NEW HAMPSHIRE, IS OPEN on Friday afternoon and the children visit their section of it by grades, as part of their school program.

Mrs. Neda Frost's grades arrive first with a monitor from their own primary ranks. They are country children in bright plaid shirts, rubber boots, blue jeans, yellow slickers. One is sure to climb the small red ladder to reach the shelf, modestly placed, where stand a row of books with the name Elizabeth Orton Jones on the cover: *Twig; Prayer for a Child; Song of the Sun; Red Riding Hood.*

Helping Miss Elsie Resor, the librarian, and Mrs. Esther Spalding, a trustee, is Miss Jones herself. She, too, is a trustee and acts as children's librarian. In Mason the library trustees really work.

The children begin to ask questions. *Miss Jones: Have you a book about clowns? about pigs? about wabbits?* At the proper time the (*Continued on page 88*)

Youngsters love to visit Mason's library—and Miss Jones (left).

The First American Submarine 1776

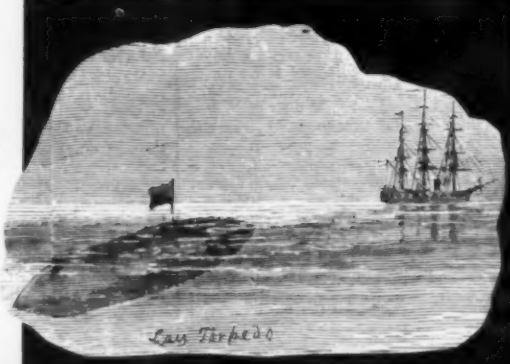
● BLAME IT ON HEREDITY, THE CLIMATE, or a plenitude of rum and hard cider; whatever the reason, it is no misstatement to say that New England, in colonial days, produced more inventors to the square mile than any other place of its size in the world. To these early Yankees, no problem was too difficult to tackle; witness the story of Ben Franklin, the Boston born experimenter, drawing electricity from the sky with a kite. Standing at the forefront of history with such inventive geniuses as Eli Whitney and Sam Colt, was a brash young man who, but for a quirk of fate, might well have overshadowed their fame.

David Bushnell, a Saybrook, Connecticut farm boy, became interested in solving the problem of exploding gunpowder under water. Shortly after his graduation from Yale in 1775, he perfected an underwater bomb, or mine, and cast about for some method whereby it could be placed against the hulls of British ships which were blockading American ports.

Disregarding the fact that the world's best minds for centuries had been unable

This page: these two drawings appeared in Harper's Weekly *in 1876 yet they give an approximate idea of how the* Turtle *operated.*

Opp. page: The next experiment in underwater craft after the Turtle *was this French invention brought to New York in 1851. It was fitted with a hand propeller and cost $9,000.*



to figure out plans for a workable submarine, Bushnell decided to build one.

With the courage and enthusiasm of youth, he overcame all of the many obstacles which had daunted hundreds of brilliant men before him, and in the unbelievably short time of six months, completed his craft.

He named it the *American Turtle*. It was six feet high, made of heavy oak timbers in the shape of a round keg, and was bound by iron bands. The top of this submergible was of metallic construction, hinged so the operator might enter, and with eight small glass windows which allowed some light to enter when submerged. A foot pedal opened a cock that permitted water to enter a compartment for submerging and two hand-pumps were used to empty the compartment for surfacing. A set of twelve-inch paddles turned by a crank, furnished lateral power. The speed of this contraption was all of three miles an hour. When submerged, the operator had to ascend every thirty minutes to replenish the air in his underwater coffin. Only a brave man would dare to operate the world's first submarine.

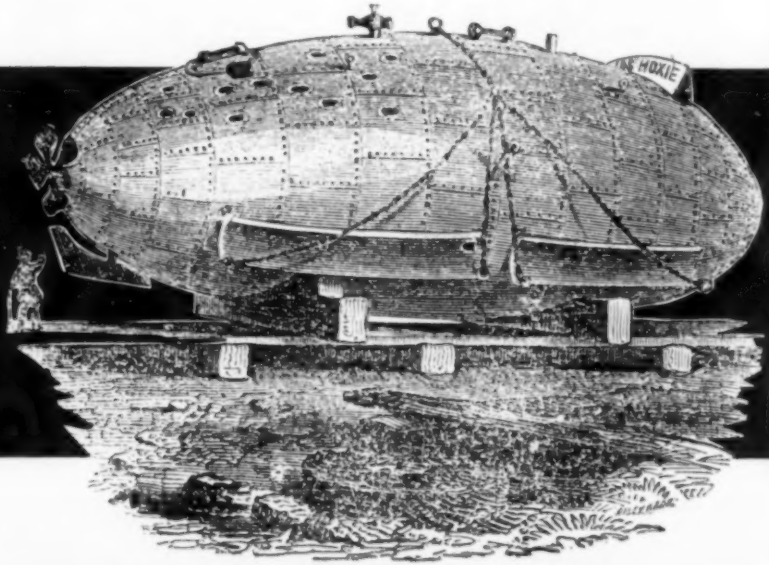
Bushnell offered his inventions to the Continental Army, and, after several trial runs in the Connecticut River near Saybrook, the Bushnell mine and the *American Turtle* were accepted as weapons of war by General Sam Parsons of General Washington's Staff.

General Parsons asked for volunteers to learn how to operate the "infernal, underwater machine." The boys in the Continental Army were brave soldiers, willing to chance the results of combat on land; however, to go sailing beneath the water locked in a wooden clam shell was something different. Only one soldier volunteered; Sergeant Ezra Lee of Lyme, Connecticut.

Lee familiarized himself with the craft by taking several experimental cruises into New York Sound. Trouble developed with the pumps and Bushnell devised better ones. Finally, everything was ready.

In the Summer of 1776, the *American Turtle* was hauled from the waters of New York (*Continued on page 86*)

Only one man dared volunteer for duty on that "infernal underwater machine," the *American Turtle.* *by* LEWIS TAFT



Personality Portfolio

MAIL ARTIST

by JOSEPH A. OWENS

● The "Ten Most Wanted Men" aren't wanted in the Cornwall, Connecticut, Post Office—thanks to Postmaster Clarence P. Meier. A former interior decorator, designer and newspaper cartoonist, Mr. Meier has, since his appointment to his present job in 1958, transformed the once drab interior of the tiny, frame building into a setting for five large paintings one of which depicts "Cornwall about 1870" (shown above—behind Mr. Meier). The artist, of course, is the Postmaster, himself. He began the job only after extensively examining old books, letters, manuscripts and town records from which he was able to develop a vista of the town green—as it looked 91 years ago. Surprisingly enough, except for minor changes, most of the homes appear now as they did then. Mr. Meier went on to do a series of murals depicting the history of postal service in Cornwall and with these he brightened the remaining walls. Cornwall has great pride in their little Post Office—and, especially, in their Postmaster!

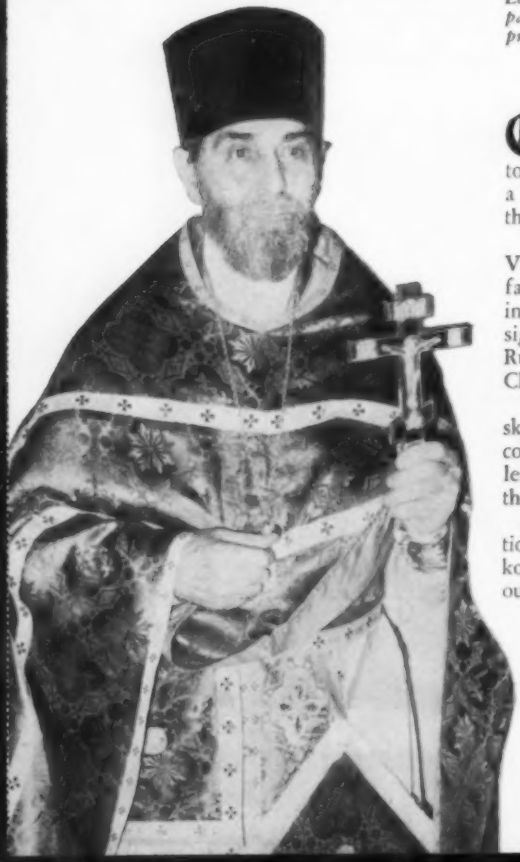
Personality Portfolio

A LIFE OF GUNS

by DAN FORD

● Of the countless Americans who collect guns, a great many have found their way to Major Hugh Smiley's door in Henniker, N. H. Major Smiley, below, who started collecting guns in 1900 when he bought an ancient hand-cannon, now literally priceless, for 50c, is the undisputed dean of American gun collectors. Years ago gun collecting was such a rare hobby that Major Smiley once bought 350 antique weapons as scrap iron at 6c a pound! By 1935 he had assembled one of the finest private collections in the country—consisting of more than 2000 pieces. But in 1936 he retired, dispersed his guns to museums and buyers and moved to his New Hampshire home. He's since assembled a second collection! Perhaps more valuable than the weapons in his possession is the gun-lore which he's accumulated. His advice and information through his "Arms Reference Service" have become an invaluable source of material for collectors, marksmen, police departments, museums, historians and innumerable authors.

Left: The Rev. Afanasy Donetzkow blesses parishioners during the service. Above: the pre-midnight procession outside the church.



ONCE A YEAR THE QUIET LITTLE town of Richmond, Maine is treated to a colorful and joyous Easter service by the 300-family Russian refugee colony.

The heart of the celebration is a Victorian style sea captain's home not far from the Kennebec River. This building with its gingerbread and pastry designs has been converted into a glittering Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church.

On Easter eve the St. Alexander Nevsky Church, as it is called, is lit up with countless candles in anticipation of the lengthy service. By ten o'clock the first of the worshippers have arrived.

As midnight approaches, the congregation follows the Rev. Afanasy Donetzkow, pastor, in a procession around the outside of the church.

Russian

A typical Russian Easter table is this one at the home of Nichols VonKnorring of Richmond. The tall cakes with frosting are called kulichi and are served only once a year for Easter. The night before the feast, the food is blessed at the church service.

The yellow and white tapers which the worshippers carry light up the darkness of the night. Rich, exalted voices from the choir break into the stillness with old Slavonic songs and chants.

Some of the parishioners carry icons, bright banners, censers, and the oddly shaped Easter foods.

At midnight the Rev. Donetzkow halts on the steps of the church and addresses the congregation, "Christos Voskresse ihs mortvui." (Christ is risen from death.)

Answering him in unison the worshippers say, "Voistinu, Christos Voskresse." (In truth, Christ is risen.) After these words they cross themselves and families and friends kiss each other three times.

The rest of the service is held inside the church and lasts until dawn. Aside from the singing of old Slavonic Church songs and the intense readings from the gospel, part of the service is the blessing of the Easter foods.

To be blessed are the tall cylinder-shaped kulichi, which is sort of a rich coffee cake; the pashka, a pyramid-shaped cheese enriched with eggs, raisins and butter; honey combs; preserves; fruits; and meats, all of which will later cover tables of (*Continued on page 112*)

by CHARLES C. SUTTON

On April 9th—a week after our Easter — the town of Richmond has their annual "second" Easter.

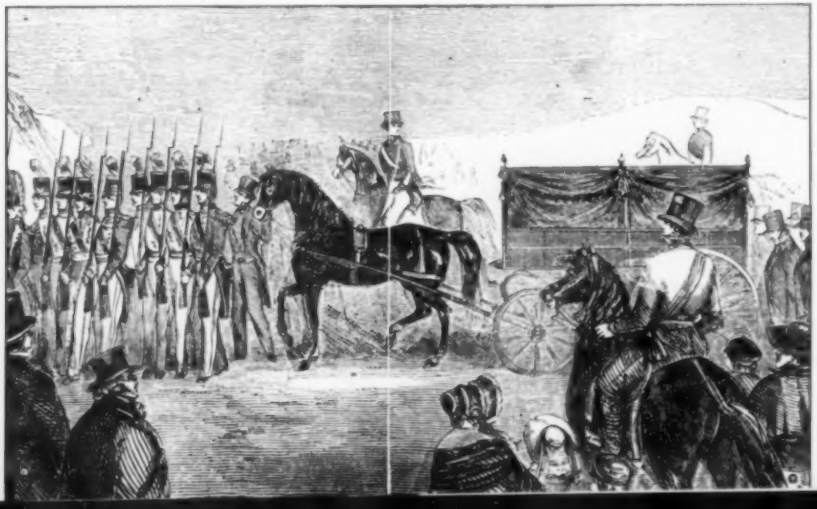
Easter in Maine!

ACTON'S 110-Year-Old MONUMENT

The illustrations and following account are taken from *Gleason's Pictorial Drawing Room Companion, April 1851*

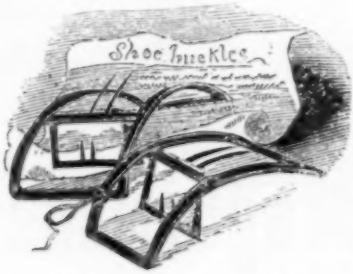
The three Revolutionary War soldiers are laid to rest in the base of Acton's monument—100 years after the "Concord Fight."

THE TOWN OF ACTON, MASS., WAS A FEW days since the scene of most solemn and interesting ceremonies. The occasion being the dedication of the monument, which has been sketched for us on the spot, and is given herewith—and which has just been completed, intended to commemorate the "Concord Fight," and to perpetuate in an especial manner the memories of Capt. Isaac Davis, and privates Abner Hosmer and James Hayward, of the company of Acton minute men, who fell on the 19th of April, 1775.—The monument is of granite, seventy-five feet in height, fifteen feet square at the base, and four feet square at the top; and has cost $2500, of which $2000 were granted by the State, and the remaining $500 by the town of Acton. The architect was C. G. Parker, of Boston, and Messrs. Eastman & Hutchinson, of Manchester, N. H., were the builders. It is a stern and substantial looking column, and, in (*Continued on page 69*)



COLORFUL NEW ENGLAND #25: **First Parish** Church United in Westford, Massachusetts. This print, by Arthur Griffin, may be purchased, rolled in a tube, or any of the previous prints, for 25c each. Write YANKEE, INC., Dublin, N. H.

At the celebration were sketched the powder horn, below, through which Hayward was killed and the shoe buckles, right, Davis had on when shot.



this respect, a most befitting memorial of the true and strong-hearted men whose patriotism and virtue it is destined to hand down to posterity.

The monument stands in the centre of Acton Green [*and still does—Ed.*] and from the four corners, on top lines, flags were extended to the town hall and other prominent objects, and flags were also stretched across the square at several other points. This display, and the arrival of several military companies from different directions, gave a very animated appearance to the usually quiet and secluded village of Acton Centre. The village was thronged with strangers.

The remains were exhumed a few days preparatory to their removal to the tomb left for their final resting place in the base of this monument. The graves were then filled up; the gravestones being left standing, to tell future visitors of the spot who had formerly occupied them.

The bones of all the bodies were found in a remarkable state of preservation. Hair as fresh as life was found upon Hayward's skull, and only one tooth was missing. In the others, the teeth were found complete. The place where the enemy's ball had passed through Hosmer's cheek bone, under the left eye, as he himself was taking aim, was distinctly visible. These bones, kept separate, were placed in a walnut coffin, divided into three compartments, those of Capt. Davis being in the middle one, those of Hayward on the right, and Hosmer's on the left. On the coffin lid over each compartment were the respective names of Davis, Hosmer and Hayward, engraved on silver plates.

The pall-bearers were Joseph Herris, aged 82; Charles Tuttle, 82; Nathan D. Hosmer, 80; John Herris, 76; Daniel Barker, 76; James

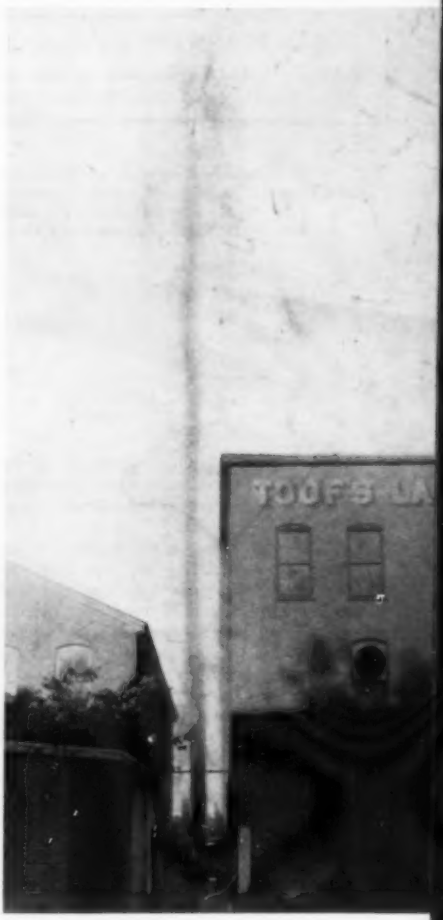
(*Continued on page 114*)

Dr. Amariah Preston, 94, and Benjamin Smith, 85, were honored guests at the celebration, both having fought in the Concord battle.

It's 64 years since fiery John Toof drilled 1325 ft. for water —yet a few still remember . . .

Toof's Magnificent Well

by ARTHUR F. JOY



This remarkable old photograph was taken shortly after Toof's well began to gush in.

WHEN YOU DISCUSS OLD-TIME CONcord, New Hampshire, with Mayor Charles P. Johnson, one thing he perks up about is his city's unforgettable John H. Toof, operator of a laundry bearing his name, and Toof's even more unforgettable artesian well—drilled plumb through the kind of everlasting granite for which the state is famous. You get the impression that the Mayor is proud of old John Toof and regards him as an example of rugged individualism. We will learn why shortly.

According to the rather prosaic language of the day ("A History of Concord," Volume I, Page 22), "the well was located about 150 ft. south of School Street and midway between Main and State Streets. In 1897 and 1898," the historical report reads, "John H. Toof, wishing to obtain superior water for his laundry, sank a well to the depth of 1325 ft. The bed rock was struck at 49 ft. below the ground's surface, and thence the drilling proceeded for the remaining distance of 1276 ft. through a coarse granite formation which varied considerably from time to time in the mixture of its elements."

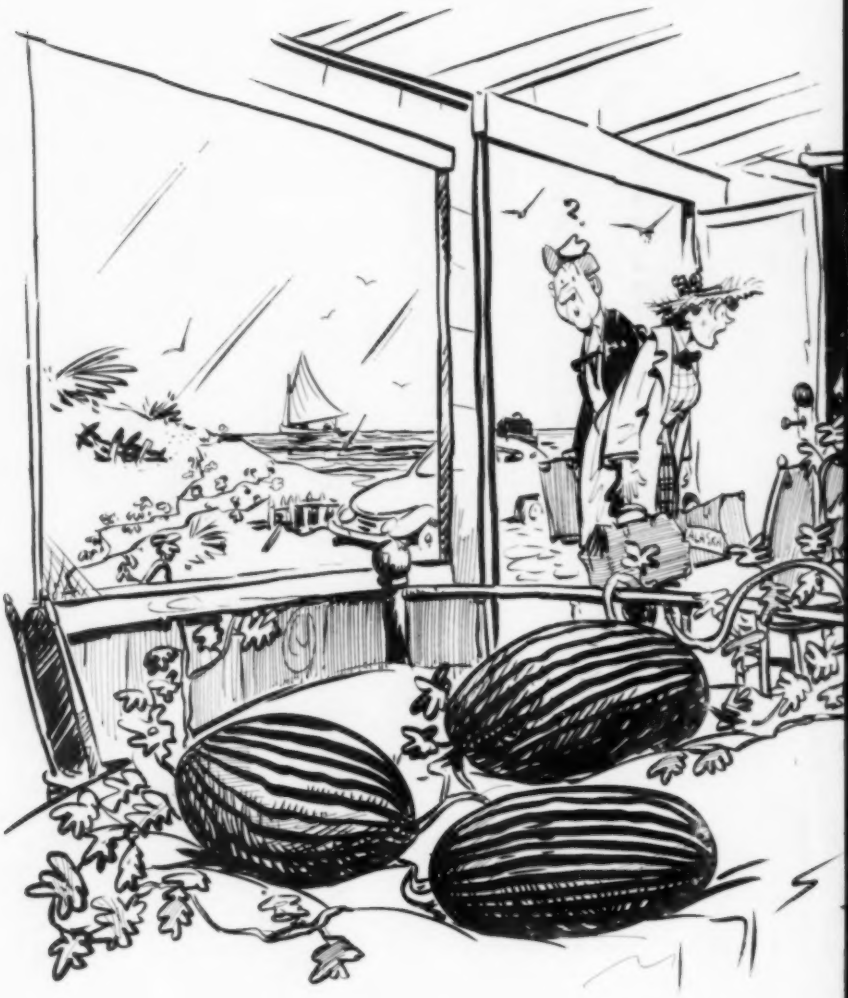
At one point, the old report indicates, a stratum of pure quartz fifteen feet thick was encountered. "This tested severely the temper of the drills and slackened the progress of the work." (Note: We could

Top: before the automobile, John Toof used delivery sleighs like this to drop off clean laundry and jugs of water from his well. Above: Toof's laundry about 1920.

add that it also severely tried the temper of John Toof!).

Water, it is indicated, was reached in small quantity at fifteen feet below the rock's surface, and in larger measure at the depth of 935 feet. "This well has a diameter of six inches and yields each day between 5,000 and 6,000 gallons of pure water by a pumping of ten hours. Raised from a point 325 feet below the ground's surface, the water has a uniform temperature." And deliciously cold, too.

The water is described as being "of perfect clearness, soft, and it answers admirably the purpose for which it was sought." The report concludes with the rather portentous statement that "the sinking of this well has demonstrated the fact that if at some future time the water from Long Pond shall fail, from pollution, insufficiency, or other cause, Concord's citizens (*Continued on page 116*)

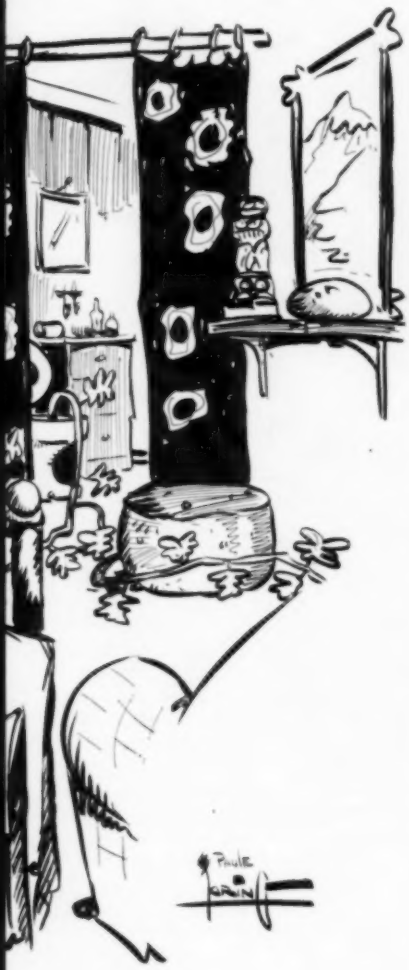


by EBEN WOOD

Illustration by PAULE LORING

Organic Gardening on

Watermelons — the only garden crop we're aware of which prefers a double bed to a flower bed!



he Cape!

● IT WAS ONE OF THE CAPE'S WILD DAYS. The wind was lashing the pitch pine limbs up and down and slamming sheets of rain against windows.

We sat in Bill's comfortable den before the open fire, watching the flames eat up the driftwood. Over the mantle hung a framed picture of the Mendenhall Glacier which lies out of Juneau, Alaska. At one end stood a small, hand-whittled, Indian totem pole, at the other end a stone about the size of an egg and much the same shape except that it was flattened on the bottom. The telephone rang and Bill left to answer it. I reached up and picked up the stone for a closer view. It was of coarse granite and of a peculiar smoothness. It didn't seem like an ocean-washed stone, but it had been ground and polished in some way. When Bill came back I was still looking at the stone as I turned it slowly. An odd little smile twisted Bill's mouth but he said nothing. I said, "Bill, this stone must have some kind of story. What do you know about it?" His smile broadened a bit as he said, "It has. Just watching you turn it over makes me smell watermelons. It begins back in 1936. I was working in Boston. Business was booming. Our company was expanding and the boss seemed to think that I was the most important outside man in the force.

He kept me humming. The year before my wife and I had built a little camp in the sand hills of the upper Cape. It was primitive, but we did enjoy going there for week-ends. That year when we went down (*Continued on page 120*)

Warren Evans works for charity with his horses—N. Reading, Mass.

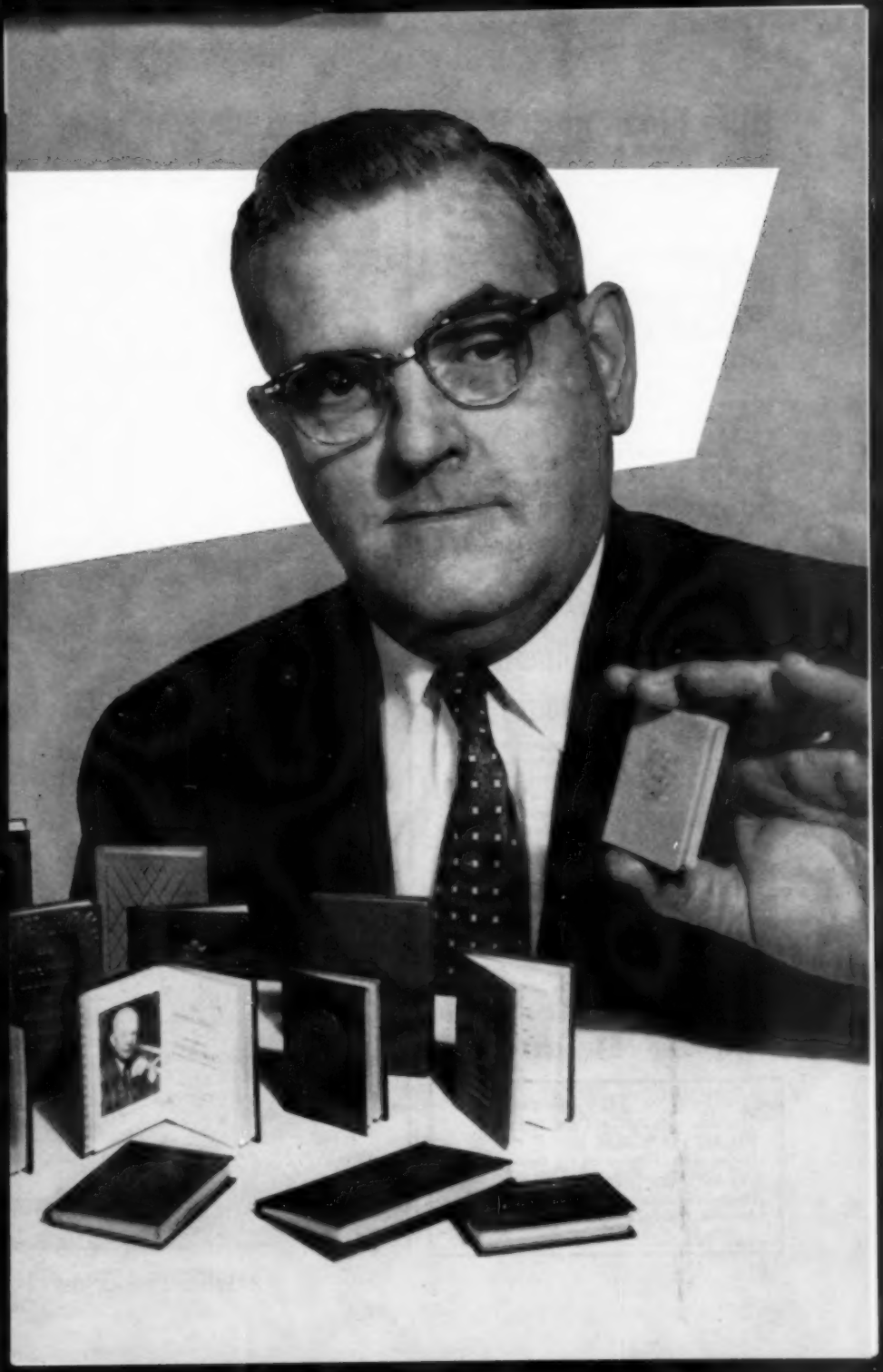
SMALL BUSINESS AND CRAFTS

by Damon Ripley
YANKEE's *Roving Reporter*

WINSTON CHURCHILL, DWIGHT Eisenhower, Franklin Roosevelt, Carl Sandburg, Van Wyck Brooks, Ingabord Snordquist (who's he?) and thousands of others have enjoyed the tiny results of a Worcester, Massachusetts, man's hobby. "Tiny results" in the literal sense only, of course, as I am referring to Achille Joseph St. Onge (Archie to his friends) of 7 Arden Road, who is the largest publisher of miniature books in the country —perhaps the world!

Archie has published seventeen miniature books in the last twenty-five years—the most recent being Thomas Gray's "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard," which is but 2¼" high and 1½" wide. (By definition, a miniature must be no higher (*Continued on page 76*)

Miniature book publisher Achille Joseph St. Onge of Worcester, Massachusetts ►



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than three inches.) Archie sent me a copy of the "Elegy" and believe me, it is truly an exquisite piece of workmanship—something that one feels should be kept in a felt jewel box!

Archie doesn't do the actual printing and binding—he is rather the "architect" who plans the work to the finest detail, picks the "contractors" to carry out his intentions, foots the bill, and then hopes the subsequent sale will reimburse him. For instance, for publishing his miniature "Elegy," he carefully chose the type he wanted after hours of studying his type specimen book; he determined how wide the margins would be, how big and what type initial letters, what sort of paper, the kind of bindings, what cover imprint would best suit his purpose, etc. etc. And Archie doesn't select just the most handy printer—for the "Elegy" he chose the firm of Joh. Enschede en Zonen of Harlaam, The Netherlands, to do the printing and binding, while the paper used came from the firm of Cartiere Enrico Magnani of Pescia, Italy!

As I mentioned, publishing miniature books has always been a hobby only to Archie. He earns his living as a shipper-receiver at the U. S. Envelope Company where he spends his days packing paper drinking cups for shipment. Yet his twenty-five years of publishing have brought him international fame, immense satisfaction, and friends wherever he travels. He was only 22 when he published his first miniature, "Noel" a selection of Christmas quotations. Since then his subjects have ranged from "The Inaugural Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt," (which was picked by the American Institute of Graphic Arts as one of the fifty best-made books of 1946), to "Selections" from Abraham Lincoln with a preface by Judge Carl E. Wahlstrom. He's busily making plans now (or perhaps at this date it's nearing completion) for "The Jewish Holidays" by Rabbi Louis Jacobs of London. In all titles, his books have totaled about 17,400 copies.

A few months ago, Archie launched a side line to his hobby—a quarterly magazine about miniature book collecting. It's called "The Book Collector" and, being only four inches high, is almost a miniature itself. He has already received more than 300 paid-in-advance subscriptions.

A fitting tribute to Archie's work was made by Clarence S. Brigham, former director and president of the American Antiquarian Society. He said that Archie's books

"are the finest examples of design, typography, and binding that could be devised . . . No publisher has ever equalled the publications which Mr. St. Onge has consistently issued over the years."

►Fifteen months ago, Warren Evans of North Reading, Massachusetts, who attends the Middleton Congregational Church, made the statement that with a good team of horses he could raise more money for the church than the highest project of the previous year. Rev. Chandler Hadley informed him that the booth at the Topsfield Fair netted the church $1,440.00—quite a sum for one man to match let alone surpass. But Warren Evans considered this a challenge and, although he holds a full-time job with a chemical plant in Middleton, he utilized practically all his spare time raising money for the church with his team of horses. He took people for sleigh rides and, when the snow melted, for hay wagon rides; he hauled logs out of the woods to a sawmill; and he plowed land that was too wet and soggy for tractors. On June 23, 1960, Warren proudly presented Rev. Hadley a check for $1,450.00, ten dollars more than the Topsfield Fair!

But this was really only the beginning. Warren and his team of workhorses went on to raise $2,100.00 in 1960 for a variety of charities, including $335.00 for the Jimmy Fund which he presented personally

Evans personally presented his Jimmy Fund check to Ted Williams last summer.

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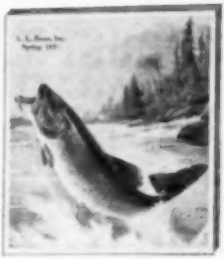
Send for Free Catalog



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to Ted Williams. President Eisenhower sent him a citation commending his charity work and Archbishop Cardinal Cushing has promised to bring a group of children to Middleton for a hay wagon ride with Warren this Spring.

His goal for 1961? Well, to raise more money for charity with his horses than he did in 1960—and he's already well on his way. Looks like old Dobbin is not extinct yet and, more important, neither is man's selfless devotion to his fellow man.

►I have news from the Society of Connecticut Craftsmen—or, rather, two pieces of news. First, the Society's third Traveling Exhibit is now available on request to anyone interested. The only cost is the transportation. This light-weight aluminum and wood case contains thirty-one articles in seven categories—enamels, jewelry, metal, pottery, printed textiles, weaving and wood—by twenty-five craftsmen. Such a show is ideal for craft groups, schools, colleges, banks, libraries, etc. The person to contact for obtaining this exhibit is Miss Helen Haselton, 67 Newport Avenue, West Hartford 7, Conn.

The second news item I have from the Society is that from April 23rd to May 13th the Prestige Show will be held in New London, Connecticut. There are many more things planned by the Society for this summer but I'll wait to mention them until their dates are a little closer at hand.

►This is the month for garden planning. I said I'd never plant another garden after last year (ever have peas and beets come up and then go right back into the ground?) but I've already enlarged my plot for this year. April has that effect. Anyway, if a strawberry patch is on your list, I know of a dandy place to get the plants—"Strawberry Festival," Box 93, Norwell, Mass. You can, for instance, get twelve plants there for $7.20, fifty plants for $17.50, 100 plants for $25.00 and so on. They also have a complete set consisting of two Alpine strawberry plants, two pots to plant them in and two imported straw planters—all for $7.50. This last, of course, is for you poor city folks who find the pavement too hard for a spade!

►Some time ago (November, 1959, to be exact) we ran a feature article on the Booras brothers who were then beginning a new concept in Christmas greeting cards—cards printed on imported legendary

Peter and Chris Booras of Keene, N. H.

wood. Well, since then, this small business in Keene, New Hampshire, known as Yankee Artists, has become *big* business! Peter Booras, president of the young firm, tells me that sales have more than quadrupled and retail stores all across the country are carrying their unique and strikingly beautiful "Silkwood" cards. Plans for this year include going into the "every day" card market—which means "Silkwoods" will soon be available for birthdays, anniversaries, etc.—and a new card rack, which will display sixty cards in a minimum of space. Of course, the nationwide demand for Yankee Artist Christmas cards has grown to such an extent that this phase of the business is practically an all-year-'round one. This means that, although most of us would rather forget Christmas for another seven months or so, Christmas orders for "Silkwoods" should be made early. In fact, Peter Booras tells me a good time, especially for large, custom orders, is *now*. The address is Yankee Artists, Inc., 47 Main Street, Keene, N. H.

►Bill Catherwood of 399 Marshall Street, Tewksbury, Massachusetts, is a fellow who doesn't do anything "half way." His hobby was fly tying but he wasn't satisfied with the materials available for tying the perfect fly. So he started to raise the birds with the feathers that would suit his purpose! He now has the best game cocks, native wood duck and other exotic feathered birds —plus a thriving business rather than a hobby.

Bill sells this Fly Tying material in packages to those who would like to devote some evenings to tying a fly that

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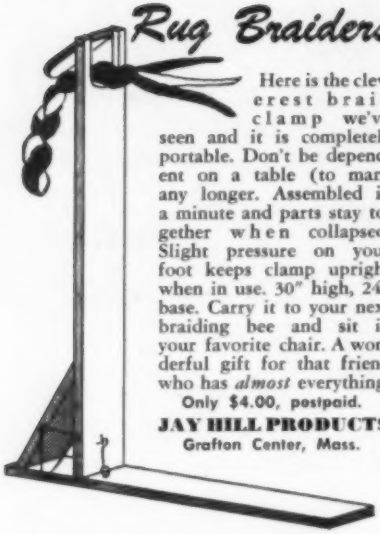
Rug Braiders



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would appease the appetite of a favorite fish. He has assembled a Fly Tying Kit he calls "Match the Hatch" with a "Stream Side Fly Tying Kit." This KIT sells for $15.00. It sure is no toy—for look what you get: 40 items: all the necessary hackle, peacock eyes, herls, fancy tippets, plus tools to handle, such as, English type hand vise, hackle pliers, double bobbin holder (Bill's own invention) scissors, hooks; all packed in a sturdy life-time birch, cedar oil impregnated, pocket size case with sliding cover. The purpose of this KIT is to give the fish the kind of diet they like best—even if it *is* their last meal. He is now working on another KIT which he will call the "SUPER KIT," which is basically the same but greatly improved and the cost will be more.

Looking after all his birds is quite a task, Bill says, but he loves it and that's what counts. Of course, he still has to import fur from white fox, deer and monkey to suit his needs—there *is* a limit, you know!

Robert H. Spiller

►It is hard to imagine—or believe—"Woodland Whimsies" unless you see them with your own eyes, but you are sure to be captivated when you do. They are miniature scenes, three to six inches high, devised by Mrs. Albert Gale of Boxford, Massachusetts, and made entirely (except for plaster base) of unbelievably tiny seeds, twigs, stones, and bits of wood, grasses and moss from woodland and garden. With her carefully collected materials, including six or seven varieties of pussy willows, Mrs.

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Gale creates tiny scenes so unusual that some people collect them.

Her "characters" are furry grey bunnies or squirrels, made of pussy willow buds; they are busy at apple picking, gardening, going to church, playing croquet. Their trees are stems of sumac berries (the stems painted green). A barrel of apples is really an acorn, filled with natural red sumac drapes. The most bird-like birds are made thus: linden seeds for body and head, bits of grass for the wings, and a segment of alder cone for the tail. An owl may peer down—he is made of a section of a boxwood seed. A lifelike turtle turns out to be an acorn top, with sycamore seeds for legs, head, and tail.

Mrs. Gale never makes exactly the same scene twice, and each new idea for a miniature is a challenge to her ingenuity. She loves creating her "Woodland Whimsies," and enjoys the surprise and pleasure they give. Children will gaze at the details for hours, and when she lectures at club meetings, using her collection of miniatures as exhibits, she knows she will be late getting home, for audiences stay to inspect each.

Mrs. Gale keeps her work a hobby, not a business, but she does send small models to the Christmas Shop at East Sandwich, Massachusetts, and larger scenes, sometimes tiny woodland creches, to the Farm and Garden Shop in Boston. At Christmas, she makes tally cards and tags ornamented with exquisite miniature swags of seed material. Prices for the "Woodland Whimsies" are low, from $1.25 up, according to size and details.

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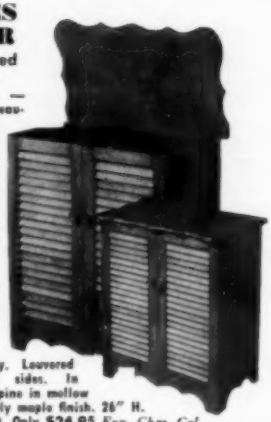

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Price $1.25 postpaid . . . State series desired

LOFTHOUSE — Box 1 — Rockport, Mass.

A Place to Run

(Continued from page 25)

anybody could grow up without running room. What about the park?"

"It's hard to get to, and just about as crowded as the schoolyard. You're supposed to keep off the grass, and the old people who go there take up a lot of the path room, and they don't much like kids whizzing by and knocking against them. It's not their fault. But just once I'd like to be somewhere free and open, so you could let yourself go, in any direction you wanted to, with nobody to tell you to stop."

Jorgenson picked up his briefcase, looked at his watch. "Well," he said, "all you have to do is have your guardian take you outside the city."

"He won't. He works all day, and doesn't have a car, and doesn't like to buy tickets, and says if I want exercise there's always plenty of work to do around the house. So that's that."

He put his briefcase down again and reflected. "Look," he said, "I don't have much to do today. I'd be happy to take you out somewhere. I think I know a good place for running."

She smiled up at him quickly, then looked gloomy again. "He won't let me," she said. "You can ask him, but he won't let me."

"Where do we go to ask him?"

"Just up the street. He works at a garage there. It won't do any good, and he'll probably be mad because we asked."

"I'll take a chance if you will."

She shrugged. "Might as well. Popcorn's stale, and the curb's hard."

She took his hand and they started up the sidewalk. His briefcase was heavy in his other hand, but he had a feeling it was important that he not change hands, that he not break the link even for a moment on the way. "Why were your eyes closed when I first saw you?" he asked.

"That's easy. I do it a lot. Pretend I'm out in a field so big I can't see the end of it, with no signs or fences, just miles of grass. And me." She held his hand tightly as they crossed a street. "But I never really believe in it."

They came to a small, busy garage. She led him to a short, stocky man with red hair and a sour expression. He was putting a new battery in a 1954 Chevrolet. "You do something wrong?" he growled.

"Not yet," she said. "But I guess I'm going to. I have to ask you something that'll make you mad."

"Well?"

"This is Mr. Jorgenson, He's willing to take me for a ride if you'd let me go."

"Well, I won't. I don't know anything about him."

"I'm a lawyer," Jorgenson explained. "It's more or less an off day for me, and I thought we might take a look at the countryside. We wouldn't be gone long."

"Listen, Jorgenson. Would you let her go for a ride with a stranger if you were me?"

"I might, if I satisfied myself that the stranger was a respectable, trustworthy person."

"And how would you do that in five minutes?"

"Well, I might check his identification and references . . ."

"Listen, every day you read about some character with all the references you could ask for flipping and breaking a few laws. You're a lawyer, you should know."

Jorgenson rubbed his forehead. "I suppose I'd have to admit that. Of course, if you had more time to get to know the person . . ."

"Not likely *we'd* get to be buddies. We don't move in the same circles, and I can't see either of us changing our lives around just so you can take Jezzy for a ride in the country."

"Jezzy?"

"That's for Jezebel," the girl said. "It means a shameless woman, but I'm not. Not usually, anyway."

"And you won't be, if I can help it," said Caster. He busied himself with the battery.

"Now look," said Jorgenson. "You don't really think any harm could come of it, do you?"

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"What I think," said Caster, "isn't too important. But I know my responsibility. I can take chances with myself, but not with my ward; a lawyer told me that, Jorgenson. If anything *did* happen, Jorgenson, and nobody can be sure it won't, you'd have a field day if you got the prosecuting job. You'd have my scalp so fast it wouldn't be funny." He wiped sweat and grease from his forehead with a large rag. "So I've got work to do, so go take somebody else for a ride."

"That's final?"

"Final."

"I told you," said Jezzy.

"I know," said Jorgenson. "The trouble is, everybody's right. He's right in wanting to protect you, you're right in wanting a chance to get out and run free, and I'm right in wanting to give you the chance. Looks like we're stuck."

"Anyway," said Jezzy, *"I'm* stuck. Thanks for trying to unstick me, but I guess you better go now."

Jorgenson left the garage, and started down the block. At the first intersection he stopped, turned around, and went back. Caster had just finished with the battery, and Jezzy was watching him clean up. "Forget something?" said Caster.

"Maybe. Look, Caster, why can't you come with us?"

"You kidding? I'm working."

"What about after work?"

"No dice, Jorgenson. I work until it's almost dark, and you can't see much of the countryside at night. Right, Jezzy?"

Jezzy sighed. "Right, I guess." She looked sadly at Jorgenson. "Anyway, I can't really run where I can't see."

Jorgenson persisted. "Can't you get off work?"

"Nope. Not for a ride in the country. Why don't you give up, Jorgenson?"

"I can't. The thing is, it's become important to me. It haunts me, the idea that someone's never had running room. It's a basic thing to me. But because it isn't something obviously big, like dying or a fire, it's the sort of thing people don't get around to until it's too late. Sure, Jezzy'll find running room some day, if she's lucky, but it can't mean then what it could now."

"It's not your worry, Jorgenson."

"It wasn't, but it is now. If I go home tonight, and have to look at those fields on the way and think of Jezzy sitting here with her eyes closed trying to pretend herself out there, free, for once in her life, how do you think I'll feel. How do you think I'll feel every time I ride home?"

"It's not my problem how you feel."

"Wait a minute, Caster. Summer's almost over, check?"

"So?"

"So you know how much trouble cars can have when cold weather starts setting in. Let's say I want a thorough, and I mean thorough, overhauling of my car now. With a complete going over on the road, under driving conditions. If I wanted it, and asked your boss if you could handle it, what would he say?"

"What could he say? Sure, he knows I could do it all right. It's not the sort of job we get every day, you know, but . . ."

Jorgenson was already gone. In five minutes he came back from the front office. He winked at Jezzy. "It's all set," he said. "Let's go."

Forty minutes later they were driving past brooks and meadows and countless trees. Jezzy was staring out the window in awe and disbelief. "So much of it," she was saying. "And

(*Continued on next page*)

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it's always here, every day."

"The place I was thinking of is up ahead," Jorgenson said. "But any time you want to stop, Jezzy, just let us know."

"I'm just letting it all happen to me," said Jezzy dreamily. "I leave it to you when we stop. Besides, I'm not sure I'd be able to run just yet."

"It beats me," Caster said. "I've never seen her this way." He maneuvered the big blue car expertly past a wide haywagon.

Jezzy's eyes seemed to expand with every mile, and her lower jaw seemed to become ever lower. It had rained most of the week before, and the rich green glory of the landscape seemed to carry its own light. Jorgenson pointed to a stand of elms marking a gravel turnoff, and the car followed the gravel over a gentle rise and across a small clover field to a big one. "You can pull up here," he said, and Caster stopped the car.

Jorgenson slid out after Caster, walked around the car, and opened the door for Jezzy. She poked her head out and looked slowly around the enormous bluegreen mantle. Jorgenson held out his hand, Jezzy took it and, trembling, stepped down. Again she looked intently around, and licked her lips. "Even when I pretended," she whispered, "I didn't dare pretend it was like this."

"Go ahead," said Jorgenson. "Try it out."

Jezzy took a tentative step, then another. "It's so soft and springy," she said. "Would it be all right if I took off my shoes?"

Caster looked up from under the car hood. "Sure," he said. "Why not?" He started to duck under the hood again, then smiled and said, "Maybe I better watch this."

Jezzy took off her shoes and socks, put them carefully on the ground, wiggled her feet in the clover and grass, took five ladylike steps, then whooped wildly and streaked off.

Jorgenson and Caster watched the tiny figure gamboling in the late afternoon sun. "I didn't know," said Caster, "I didn't know it meant so much."

"I remember," said Jorgenson, "that when I was little, I wanted so much to go on a picnic by a river. I used to think about it by the hour, how it would be to have a picnic by a river. But people couldn't tell how important it was to me, it was just kid stuff to them."

"It's partly that I haven't been close enough to her," said Caster. "And I guess it's partly that I've been so close I've taken what she's said for granted. Anyway, thanks."

"It's helped me," said Jorgenson. "Takes me back to my river for a while."

"Then you got your picnic?"

"Yes. A cousin came for a visit, and listened. Some things count most when they're listened to the first time. If they're not listened to the first time by someone, it seems they aren't much listened to afterwards. I was a fresh listener for Jezzy."

Jezzy came running up to them. Her face was a radiant mixture of sweat, tears, dirt, cloverstain, and happiness. She tried to say something, couldn't, tried again and managed "It's . . . perfect!" Then she raced off again.

"Don't worry," said Caster. "I'll see that she gets to come back. It isn't as far as I thought it might be."

"The best part of it," said Jorgenson, "is that every time you come out to find it, it seems nearer." END

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First Submarine

(Continued from page 59)

Sound, taken overland, and launched again in the Hudson River. A British fleet with a number of troop transports were anchored in New York Harbor, just north of Staten Island. In the fleet was the *Eagle*, mighty sixty-four gun flagship of Lord Howe. Sergeant Lee planned to sink her with a Bushnell mine.

The Bushnell mine was an oaken container, shaped like an egg. It contained 130 pounds of gunpowder, a clock mechanism, and a gunlock flint. This contrivance was attached to the *Turtle* by a large screw. The planned method of attack was as follows: A long auger, cranked by hand from inside the submarine, would penetrate the *Eagle's* hull, be disengaged and left sticking out from the bottom of the ship. Attached to this auger was a line for holding the mine against the hull until it exploded. The clockworks was set to fire the explosives twenty minutes after the mine was disengaged from the submarine.

"All" Sergeant Lee had to do, was to hold his submergible steady beneath the *Eagle's* hull, bore a hole, disengage the screw, plug the hole in his own craft, loosen the mine and get out of the vicinity FAST.

One dark night, the *American Turtle* was towed to Whitehall Stairs near the Battery. Sergeant Lee crawled in, the head was clamped tight, and the towrope released. On a fast ebbing tide, the sub sailed down the river on her first mission. The outgoing tide was so strong that, despite all of Lee's endeavors, the *Turtle* swept past the British fleet and out into the Sound. It took Lee two and a half hours of intense labor to get his craft back to the anchorage of the English ships. In the darkness, he finally found himself beside the huge bulk of the *Eagle*. Quickly, he submerged the *Turtle* and felt her scraping along the hull of the flagship. He turned the boring mechanism but soon discovered that the auger could not penetrate. By devilish luck, the hull of the *Eagle* had been sheathed with copper. In three different places the obstinate Yankee tried to bore into the hull and attach the mine, but in vain. It would soon be dawn. Already he could hear the footsteps of the morning watch aboard the *Eagle* and he had to travel at least four miles before reaching safety.

Surfacing beside the enemy ship, Sergeant Lee took bearings, submerged again and started toward the Battery on Manhat-

tan. The tide had turned and was with him. When the air in his tiny compartment began to foul, he was forced to surface. In the grey of dawn, he found himself opposite Governors Island and through the windows of his sub he saw a party of British Marines in a large barge rowing toward him. The *American Turtle* had been discovered by the enemy. Lee knew that he could not outdistance the barge and they would be upon him before he would be able to submerge again. Undaunted, he pulled the pin which accuated the Bushnell mine and released it. Bobbing about in the tide, the large cask of powder floated away toward the barge. The Marines, somehow sensing the danger of the floating cask, turned around and Lee escaped.

A few days later, Lee made another attempt on a British ship but the enemy was on the watch and discovered his craft. Through a hail of small-arm fire, he made his escape. General Washington in person commended Ezra Lee for his bravery.

The Bushnell mine drew blood about a year later. A short distance west of New London, Connecticut, a boatload of sailors from the British frigate *Cerberus*, found a line that seemed to have fouled on their ship. Attached to the line was a "machine up to a hundredweight." When the curious sailors hauled it aboard, it blew up, killing three sailors and wounding many more.

Captain Symons of the *Cerberus*, in reporting the incident to his superiors, decried the barbarous ways in which the Americans wage war. The British were so disturbed by David Bushnell's secret weapons, that they offered a large reward for his capture. The reward was never collected.

What became of the *American Turtle* is not known. It was reputed to have been hauled ashore on a farm near Saybrook and allowed to rot away. If this is true, it was a sad ending for such an amazing invention. Crude though it was, the *American Turtle* was another Yankee first, the predecessor of all underwater craft. •

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Miss Jones Writes a Library

(Continued from page 57)

small monitor coaxes them into an orderly file and, himself at their head, tramps them competently away.

The intermediate grades are shepherded by an eighth grader who will be an assistant for the afternoon. He seats himself at the centre table, cowhide boots wide apart, red pencil in his fist, ready to answer questions or stamp incoming and outgoing books.

The older children may want books about seeds—or scale models—or rocks—or space—or Pilgrims. The greatest worry, Miss Jones says, is not being able to give every child every book he or she wants. One, with a blue scarf tied over her yellow braids, says gravely, "I don't care if they call me an egghead, Miss Jones, I want a very good volume, please, about primitive art."

The library is unique in several ways. For instance, 150 books may change hands in an afternoon—a number equal to half the population of Mason. It is unique because Mason children, since the library was opened, quite often ask their parents to turn off the television in the evening—they would rather read; unique in that, since its opening, the children's reading I.Q. has actually risen. And unique in having on its board of trustees an Elizabeth Orton Jones.

She is a graduate of the University of Chicago and the Paris *Ecole des Beaux Arts*. Artist, illustrator and author of children's books, she is the winner of various awards including the Caldecott medal. She came to Mason some years ago to make a call and is, so to speak, still calling. She saw a four-room house up for taxes—a colonial house in a valley surrounded by fields, trees and a running brook—fell in love with it and bought it on the spot. She decided to furnish the four rooms to represent the four seasons and, with Piley, her Persian cat, moved in.

She has made her presence charmingly felt in the Monadnock Region ever since—painting fairy-tale murals, for instance, with Nora Unwin, a fellow-artist, at the Crotched Mountain Rehabilitation Centre; and transforming the Mason Public Library.

The part of the library devoted to children was formerly a woodshed located in the rear of the white clapboard house on the village green, once the parsonage, now the grammar school.

Miss Jones, standing in the library one afternoon, between the wood stove and a table with wobbly legs, thought what fun it would be to write and illustrate a book on ways in which an ugly duckling library might be transformed. The idea did not give her the pleasure an idea for a new book usually gave and suddenly she realized why. *What she really wanted to write was not the book, but the library.*

Mason, with only 300 inhabitants and not much money in the till, was nevertheless courageously receptive to the idea of making over the library. Town Meeting voted an allotment of $200 and permission to enlarge and remodel. Fathers volunteered as carpenters, mothers as needlewomen. With everyone in Mason pushing the project, it began to move, financed partly by the village, partly by gifts from pub-

ishers, reviewers, organizations, and friends —largely by cooperation, elbow grease and imagination. Imagination, Einstein once said, is more important even than knowledge.

The library, once a sober brown, is now red and white and robin's egg blue, all hearts and flowers, as welcoming and gay as a page from one of Elizabeth Orton Jones's own books. The window curtains, made from old sheets, are gaily edged with rickrack. The bright red cushions on the window seat in the picture-book nook, are the gift of William McGreal of Peterborough who, with his wife, authoress Elizabeth Yates, has always been interested in the library. The red and white shelves

(Continued on next page)

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are lined with bright-covered books; there is fluorescent lighting and a furnace and asphalt tile on the floor.

Miss Jones painted on the round centre table a scattering of library cards, pencils, and a stamp so realistic that somebody is always trying to pick one up. She painted a highback chair, as big as a minute, with a scroll saying: *Goldilocks Sat Here*. There is a short red ladder with a child's footprint painted on the top step, and a cat's pawprint on the lower. A lost mitten is painted on a hook by the door. There is a closet door with a flowerpot painted on it and in the closet are holiday books that emerge only on special occasions.

The motto of the library, Miss Jones says, is *Stretch*. Stretch the children's minds and horizons. There is one rule only: *Be polite*. The children can talk, laugh, take books off the shelves, roam about or sit—feet together, hands folded, eyes enormous—in the Goldilocks chair.

A little girl with eyes the color of cornflowers stands shyly beside Miss Jones. "I want to tell you something," she says, "Miss Jones, I'd—I'd like to come here and *live*." ●

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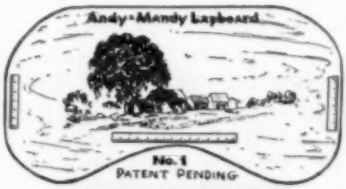

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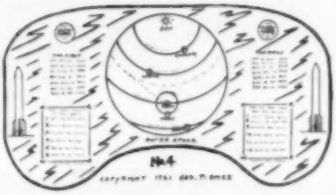

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Use it as an article of furnishing in the home or surprise a loved one with it as a gift!

It comes BRASS BOUND in two colors. Antique maple or satiny black. Specify your choice of color and size when ordering.

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CRAFT HOUSE STURBRIDGE, MASS.

needs items for Gift Shop trade.

What do you make well?

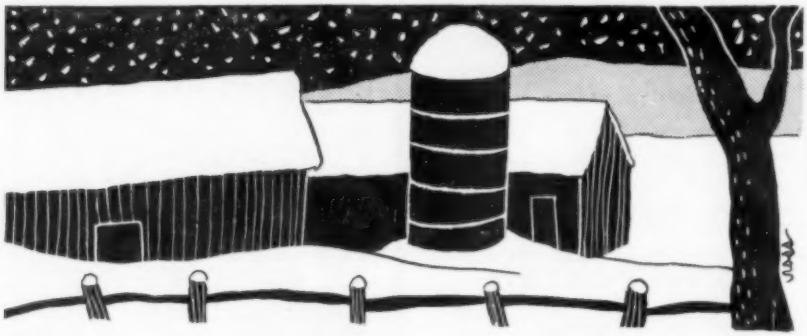
ORACLE —*continued from page 13*

►*N. J.: Dear Oracle:* There is a town in New Hampshire called Goshen. Perhaps you have heard of it. I was wondering, as I am very interested in the origin of words and phrases, if the word "Atlantic Ocean" was originally derived from people saying, "the land of Goshen." Could you give me any information about this? R.S.H.

Answer: You are not only barking up the wrong tree, you are barking up a couple of 'em. "Goshen" comes out of the Bible. Real people argue about where it was because there are two places by that name in the Holy Land, or general area. One was in that part of Egypt occupied by the Israelites and the other in the mountains of Judah. The former is generally figured to be the one referred to. And so you see, old-timers named towns for those in the Bible. There is one in Massachusetts, named Padamaram, believe it or not, and there are several Babylons scattered about besides others.

Now the Atlantic Ocean was so named because there was supposed to have been a continent called Atlantis located in it nigher the nor-western coast of Africa than any other spot. According to the tale, it sunk—lock, stock and barrel. Anyhow, it isn't there now, but it may interest you to know that some years ago scientists discovered a high ridge on the sea bottom about where Atlantis was supposed to have been. We talked with one of 'em and he said that in the course of time they will investigate the ridge further and if it is Atlantis, then he figured they could really tell.

P.S. If you'd like a copy of the folder, "The Glorious 50," the first of its kind to present in colorful, readable and compact form the story of our 50 state flags, write to Public Relations Branch, State Mutual of America, Worcester 5, Mass. A copy will be sent you free of charge!



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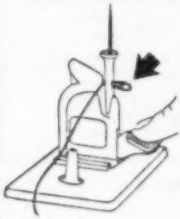

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Let's Go Shopping

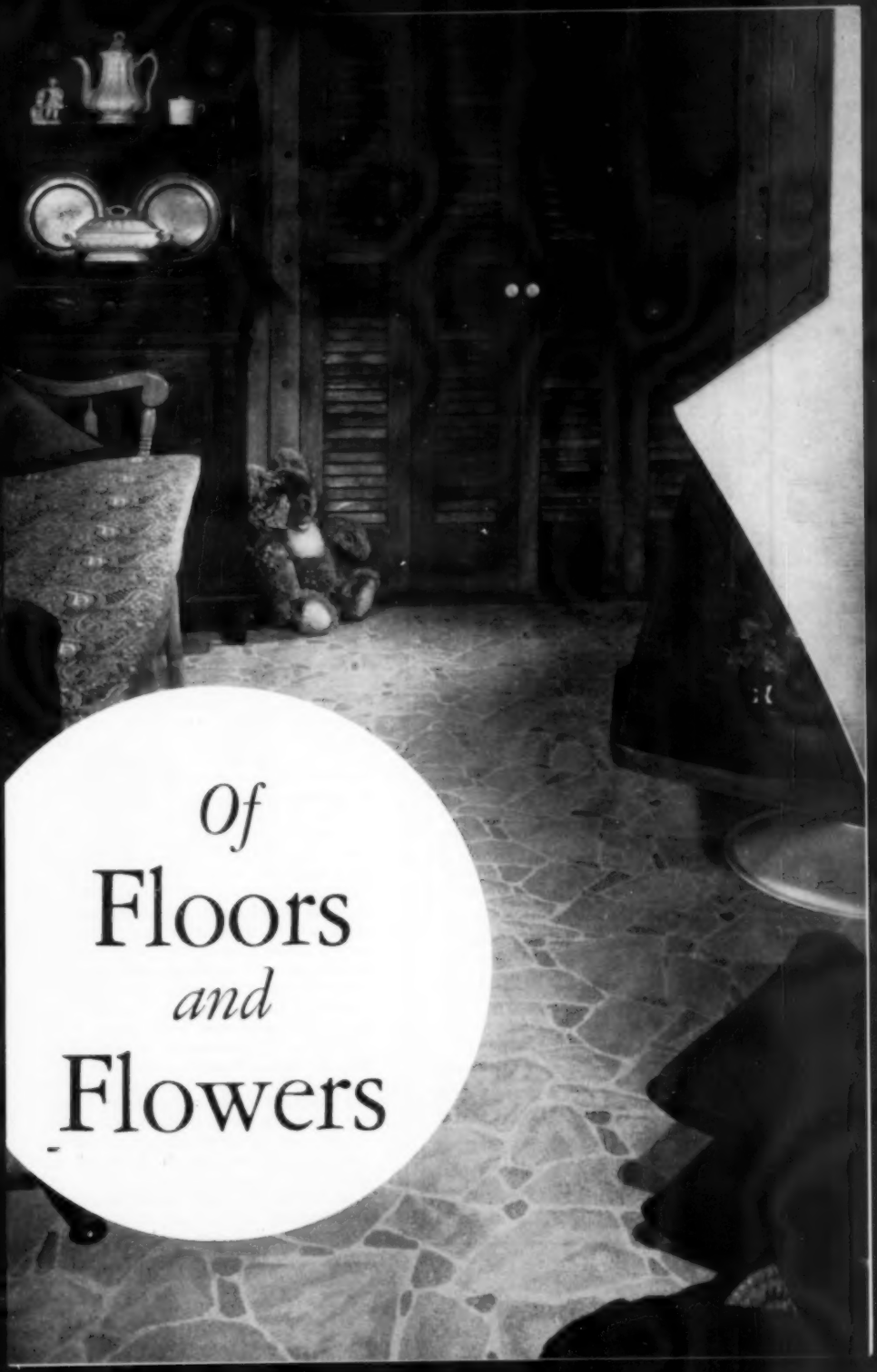
with ALICE HERBERT

● INSIDE AND OUTSIDE, THINGS ARE stirring. The urge to change, to add on, to rebuild moves in all of us concurrently with the surges of Spring. Let's, for instance, put a floor inside that looks as if it should be outside, and take our indoor plants outdoors —but still safely under cover.

For playroom, entry, porch, or maybe the summer kitchen, there's a new pattern of Armstrong linoleum that looks like flagstones. In keeping with the trend towards sparkle in and on many of today's household furnishings is the metallic glitter suspended in translucent plastic that accents the darker areas between the "flagstones." This flooring material is especially effective with wood-paneled walls and either Colonial, or porch-type furniture.

We visualize a long and happy life with an outdoorsy-looking floor of this kind in one's home. Certain rubber, vinyl and plastic tiles provide a similar (*Continued on page 96*)

Above: *one of the many models in Everlite aluminum greenhouses.* Right: *two portable electric greenhouses with 25-watt heaters and thermostats (see page 96),* Opposite page: *an example of Armstrong linoleum which gives the appearance of flagstone. (In case you're wondering, the object on the far right is a fireplace.)*



Of Floors *and* Flowers

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Strong — Tearproof — Durable
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Easy on and off
COLOR: BLUE — SIZES: Small (5½-6½)
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$1.00 the pair, postpaid — No C.O.D.
Buy 2 Pair and receive FREE—1 Pair Cotton Gloves for Hand Care, Dusting, Polishing, etc. Send money order or check with order and state glove size to —
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PRIMITIVE REVERSE
OIL PAINTINGS ON GLASS
For Mirrors and Clocks
Send for pamphlet showing types of this Colonial Art and the location of my Studio, one mile north of So. Egremont, Mass.
Or send me the size of glass desired for your old Mirror or Clock and give me an idea of what you would like. I will submit sketches from old glass in my collection for your consideration.
Over 30 years experience.
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effect, any one of which gives an easy-to-care-for surface.

Such floor covering might be a dandy solution for the room that leads directly into your greenhouse. Our retirement project (or sooner, if possible) will be a place to putter with plants and flowers all year long. There are so many, many variations in style, size and price for these curved glass eave prefabricated greenhouses that the best way to further your thinking along these lines would be to ask J. W. Irwin, President of Aluminum Greenhouses Inc. (14615 Lorain Avenue, Cleveland 11, Ohio) for descriptive literature and price list of his Everlite models. As an extension of a living room, as a porch, or as a full-blown commercial greenhouse, you can have fun—or a business (and that can be fun too)—right at home. And as your enthusiasm grows, so can your greenhouse since these can be lengthened simply by adding sections, that really fit the older part, at any time.

A greenhouse full of growing things can actually enhance the looks, and value, of your home when attached with forethought about location, style, and proportion—for who doesn't love to see gay flowers blooming at the edge of snow drifts!

But maybe you're an apartment-house-dweller, or don't own the house you live in most of the time? And maybe you can't get to your summer place until time to put plants into the ground, yet you prefer to start your own seeds so that the whole accomplishment will be yours—and Nature's?

If so, for you there are two steps: (1) Arm yourself with a catalog of Harris Seeds from Joseph Harris Company, Moreton Farm, Rochester 11, New York (it's free); (2) Look into the possibilities of a Westinghouse portable electric greenhouse. It comes in two sizes. If your local garden supplier doesn't have one, you could ask R. J. Sargent, Vice President of Westinghouse Electric Corporation, Portable Appliance Division, 3 Gateway Center, Pittsburgh 30, Pennsylvania, about it.

The smaller greenhouse is particularly adaptable for rooting of cuttings and starting seeds. Both have thermostatic control and ventilated tops. About $14.95 brings this one home with a package of growing medium and a detailed instruction book by horticulturist Dr. Kenneth J. Hood, to boot.

Is that an Asperugo in the bottom of *your* garden?

Speaking of flowers, and Spring, and

other young things, from the Wamsutta Mills (at New Bedford, Massachusetts) comes a print in vivid wine or blue on pique-like cotton (a new Sanforized-Plus fabric) to make Miss New England of 1971 a tunic style dress, all fluffed out with a white underskirt. Could anything prettier be imagined than your very own Spirit of '61 skipping along beside you on Easter morning in such a dress as the one below? It's a Tiny Town Tog, and no doubt your nearest department store has it—or others of equally charming material and design.

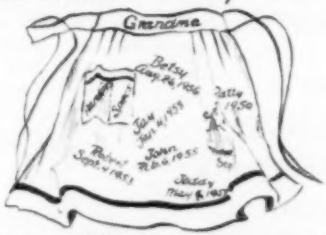
POTPOURRI

Color's The Thing—"Brilliant color" say those who know about home decor this year. Suits us fine—we love color, especially colorful placemats. Synthetic Fabrics

Inc., Springfield, Massachusetts, has twelve patterns (see one on next page) of heat- and scuff-resistant Magic-Cover Placemats. The non-skid and non-scratch under surface, and a bright, tough top make these durable and gay. Ask to see the red, yellow or blue linen, the pink stardust, the turquoise tempo colors at your "linens store." (P.S. Synthetic Fabrics also has a new sealer for preparing porous surfaces for application of self-adhering vinyls on large areas. It brushes on like paint. Ask for "Magic-Cover Poroseal" at hardware or department stores.)

Correction—Denworth Farm Maple Syrup Co., Worthington, Massachusetts (see YANKEE January 1961) has asked that we tell you they do *not* pay postage fees on syrup they mail. The customer is billed for syrup

Grandma Apron



Send us the first name and date of birth of each grandchild. We will design and print these on our specially trimmed, unbleached muslin, washable apron in multi-color textile paint

Note the two pockets for grandma's Specs and hankies.

A gift that Grandma will really cherish. Prepaid Complete $2.95

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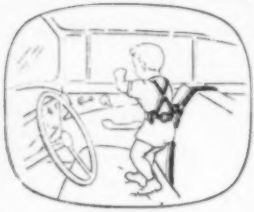

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Placemats of Synthetic Fabrics, Inc., Springfield, Mass. (See p. 97 for details.)

and postage after mailing. Do try some! It tastes just as yummy!

Dali in Boston—Paine Furniture Store will be able to show you this month a million-dollar exhibit of jewels designed by Salvador Dali—not jewels meant for wearing or even touching—just for looking. Among the two dozen or more religious, classical, and surrealistic masterpieces is the Angel Cross, newest of his creations, being shown for only the second time. A benefit showing for a worthy cause—the North Shore Babies' and Children's Hospital—

YOUR PHOTO ON STAMPS **22 MILLION** sold last year. Your photo on stamps, sheets of 100, gummed and perforated. Perfect on business cards, letters, greeting cards, exchange at school, etc. Send photo, snapshot or negative (returned unharmed) and $2.00 for 100 miniature photographs, like stamps.

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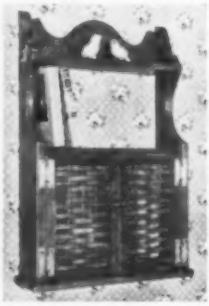

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It's hard to think of a room where one or two of these handsome, handy pieces wouldn't be welcome—in the bathroom for cosmetics, in Dad's den for shot gun shells, etc.

Beautifully handcrafted and finished in antique pine. One shelf behind latticed doors.

30" High, 18" Wide, 6" Deep

$16.00 Post Paid

Write for folder, showing unusual line of furniture and gift items.

CHIMNEY MOUNTAIN CRAFTSMEN

Dept. Y, INDIAN LAKE, N. Y.

these priceless pieces may be seen April 8th through 29th at Paine's on Arlington Street.

Book For a Cook—"Favorite Breads from Rose Lane Farm" by Ada Lou Roberts—baking made *easy* (it says on the jacket!). From Hearthside Press Inc., 118 East 28th St., New York 16—at $2.95.

And For an Embroiderer—Mrs. Archibald Christie's "Samplers and Stitches" talks about and diagrams clearly some 250 stitches and methods of embroidery, and produces an easy-to-follow book on this ageless art. $4.95, from the same Press.

Yankee's Potluck Kitchen—We just furnished our eating area with tables and chairs from Templeton Craftsmen, Templeton, Massachusetts. If you visit their shop on Route 2, you can see the complete line of knotty pine furniture and authentic colonial reproductions, such as a Vermont Deacon's Bench or a Harvest Table. They will supply items unfinished, but completely sanded and assembled; or finished in antique maple or dark pine; or trimmed in black and gold with hand stenciling. But see for yourself.

* * * *

There's a world of variety and charm and satisfaction in seeing for yourself the hundreds of New England gift shops, work shops, craft shops, antique shops, church and country fairs, auctions; and all the delightful spring, summer and autumn months are ahead of you in which to do just this. Don't forget to come see us at YANKEE, too!

AUNT "PHENE'S"

KITCHEN CUPBOARD SPICE RACKS

NOW AVAILABLE IN "Do-It-Yourself" KIT

Inside your cupboard neat and nice,
Here's the very best rack to hold your spice.

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Regularly furnished with gold flecked jonquil yellow ends and bright red bars. Other color combinations supplied on order at extra cost.

Price of Complete "Do-It-Yourself" Kit

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Amateur chef—male or female—becomes a professional when guided by the original approach and informative treatment of growing and flavoring with herbs in Edith Foster Farwell's new 128-page, spiral bound 6" x 9" book "Have Fun with Herbs." In addition to the Old New England family recipes, not to be found in any other cookbook, there are chapters on growing herbs, herbs in flower arrangements, herbal remedies, and herbs for the holidays. A gift to the gourmet cook or herb hobbyist will show your thoughtfulness. **$2.25** postpaid.

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Want a Change from Bread?

Toast • Small Slices
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Recipe with a History

EDITED BY DUNCAN MACDONALD

WHEN YOU CLOSE YOUR EYES AND think of the kitchens of long ago, of the tender and buxom and bustling women who made as many mysterious moves as a priestess in a temple, of the flavorous steam and the toasty glow from the cast-iron range, it all seems to be fading from the memory and in danger of being forgotten along with the rest of the wonderful world on which the year 1914 rang down the curtain.

Millions of such kitchens from Portland, Maine, to Portland, Oregon, had much the same features, but each wore a different expression. More important even than that difference, however, was that all existed in a kind of *ambience* consisting of more things than words can tell, but including an underlying wholesomeness, immaculate curtains, the smells of coal and kerosene and hot cast

iron and pine logs and parsnips and spices and the heavenly essence of apple juice and cinnamon.

Before the vision slips away, let us remember on paper the special and rare quality those kitchens acquired from the women who spent most of their lives in them.

One such with a feature that is a far cry from modern equipment is described by this month's winner, Mrs. Lester M. Stiles of Elizabeth, N. J. "Some of my fondest childhood memories," she says, "come from the first six years of my life, which were spent between Saxton's River, Cambridgeport, and Springfield, Vermont.

"My grandfather ran the village grocery store there in one side of the family home. This was in Cambridgeport Center which boasted not more than twenty-five houses and a covered bridge.

"I was always chubby, for my mother, grandmother, and aunts knew how to serve all the Vermont delicacies. Butternut cake, blackberries with cream, maple syrup on snow, new potatoes cooked with green beans or peas and a piece of salt pork, all are memories that bring a dreamy look to my eyes.

"I can still remember the open, running stream of water in the kitchen, which was scooped up, icy cold, with a large dipper, and served with each meal. Among these nostalgic memories is:

"GRAM'S" STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

Sift together: 3 cups flour, 4½ teaspoons baking powder, 3 tablespoons sugar, 1½ teaspoons salt, and cut in ¾ cup of butter or lard. Add ¾ to one cup of milk to make a soft dough. Knead gently 20 seconds. Divide dough in half. Pat one piece into a 9-inch greased pan. Spread with butter, and cover with other half, patting to fit pan. Bake in a very hot oven (450 degrees F) 30 minutes.

CANDY STICKS

For the most part, made the old-fashioned way of pure sugar, with some corn syrup added for keeping qualities. Sticks like these have appealed to generations of children.

IN BUNDLES OF SIX
(all of one kind)
12 BUNDLES TO THE BOX

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Molasses Peppermint
Old Fashioned Molasses

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Make a strawberry cream mixture from 2 quarts fresh strawberries (hulled, cut in quarters, and sweetened) and one cup cream, unwhipped and poured into strawberries just before spreading on cake, not mixing especially. Separate layers of shortcake, butter, spread half of strawberry cream mixture on bottom layer, place other layer on top, butter, and cover with strawberries and cream. Serve warm.

"'Gram' whom I remember as wearing a long, full, printed dress with a high white lace collar, and full, long, white apron, served this cut in squares, on a large platter."

Prize For April Contest Winner

Our April winner will receive a 45-piece set of Lenoxware, the quality melamine dinnerware designed by Lenox, world's leading manufacturer of fine dinnerware. The winner will have her choice of pattern in the service for eight:

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Contest Rules for "Recipe With A History"

1—Address entries:
"Recipes with a History"
Duncan MacDonald—YANKEE
Dublin, N. H.

2—All entries become the property of YANKEE.

3—Decision of the judges is final. In the event of a tie, duplicate prizes will be awarded.

4—Recipe should be at least 50 years old, preferably from the family background of the person submitting it, accompanied by an interesting story establishing its authenticity. Maximum length, including recipe, 400 words.

5—Entries will be judged on the basis of excellence of recipe, interest of story, authenticity of background, and legibility.

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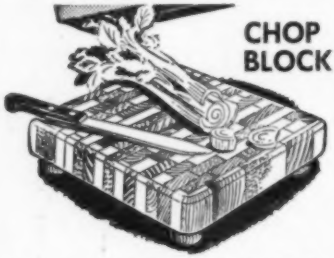

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SKY HOLLOW FARM Rochester, Vermont

I Remember the Fire Horses

(Continued from page 131)

always alert to the old, familiar clanging of the bells and the rythmic pounding beat of hooves of their erstwhile comrades plunging on to another fire. The old, so well loved excitement would sometimes come to them several blocks away. So, one of these old timers not infrequently would forget his or her humble role and go racing off with a crazily careening grocery, milk or junk wagon, to join their former comrades in the dash to the fire. They might start out from the curb unattended or if the driver was in the seat they would take the bit in their teeth and the driver would be helpless. A wagon would topple over at a wild corner turn or a policeman would jump out into the street, waving his arms to stop the runaway.

Of course people loved all this. There was the lasting love of one's old job besides the humour in it that they appreciated. I remember the many times the newspapers printed stories about the fire horse veteran craving to return to his old role. Once a fire horse, always a fire horse.

The firemen, too, loved their horses even though they expected of the brave animals a fine, consistent discipline. The horses themselves seemed to understand this for most of the time they filled their roles without a flaw. Like humans, they would lag at times or show a bit of temperament, but there would be a sharp word or two and then they would promptly be back in line. The fire horses had fast-speaking names like Jim, Duke, Ned, Dolly and Nell. No doubt that was to save time when there was need for haste in an emergency.

What I remember with special fondness was the evening drill at the fire station. This was after supper time in our neighborhood in Providence when I was a little boy and in New York, too, perhaps Greenwich Village. Children would gather beside the wide open doors of the station to watch the horses getting into harness

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4 10-oz. jars $5.00 pp. Add 15c E. of Miss.

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just as though they were about to get off to a real fire. What a thrill! (No movies or television then: the smaller delights sufficed for us little ones). The big bell would clang.

Firemen would come zipping from their living quarters aloft, sliding down the shiny brass pole. At the same instant the bars to the stalls would raise and the beautiful horses would come clopping out at a brisk trot. Each, without a false move, would take his place beneath a suspended harness in front of the steam engine (a coal burner) or the ladder truck. In a twixt the harness would drop and they would all be hitched up. The firemen would take their places, there would be a certain routine of detail, and, meanwhile, our beloved fire horses would be stomping a solid hoof on the fire station floor, or tossing a lovely maned head, or posing with a noble head held high and flashing bright eyes, and all tense for a getaway. They seemed to say, "All right! All right! What are we waiting for ! ! ? " It was all done in a few minutes. Then the harness would be unclicked and go aloft again and the horses would clop, clop leisurely back to their stalls, usually with one or two nipping at the flank of another peevishly or in play.

But sometimes before they returned to their stalls there would come the greatest thrill of all. The little boys and girls would be permitted inside to pat the broad sides of the huge animals or caress their soft noses. Then, if you were especially fortunate, a kind fireman would raise you onto the broad back of Ned or Dolly, and that would be the most delightful, satisfying part of all! •

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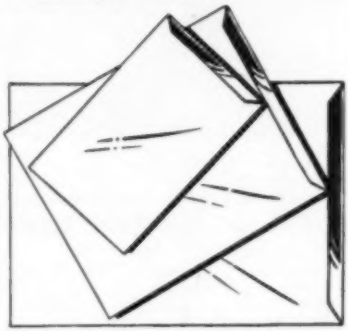

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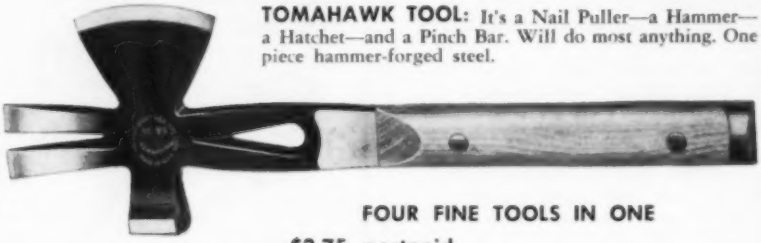

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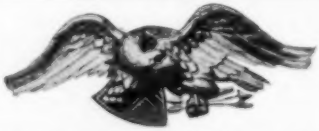

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The Roving Skeleton

(Continued from page 55)

to one of the ancient dungeons, the officers forced his body through a tiny opening which led into the subterranean casemate. Following him into the dungeon, they placed him on the granite floor.

By this time Green had awakened from his drunken stupor and demanded to know what was taking place. Without answering, his captors began to shackle him to the floor, using the heavy iron handcuffs and footcuffs fastened into the stone. Then they all left the dungeon and proceeded to seal the captain up alive inside the windowless casemate, using bricks and mortar which they had hidden close at hand.

Captain Green shrieked in terror and begged for mercy, but his cries fell on deaf ears. The last brick was finally inserted, mortar applied and the room sealed up, the officers believed, forever. Captain Green undoubtedly died a horrible death within a few days.

Realizing the seriousness of their act, Massie's avengers requested quick transfers to other parts of the country, but several of the enlisted men had already learned the true circumstances.

As Edgar Allan Poe heard this story, he took many notes. Several of the other soldiers reported Poe's unusual interest in the affair to the commanding officer of the fort. Poe was soon asked to report to the post commander, and the following conversation is said to have taken place:

"I understand," began the officer, "that you've been asking questions about Massie's monument and the duel which he fought?"

"I have, sir," replied Poe meekly.

"And I understand that you've learned all about the subsequent events connected with the duel?"

"I have, sir."

"Well, you are never to tell that story outside the walls of this fort."

Poe agreed that he would never *tell* the story, but years afterwards he did *write* the tale based on this incident, transferring the scene across the ocean to Europe and changing both the characters and the story itself. He named the tale *The Cask of Amontillado.*

In 1905, eighty-eight years after the duel, when the workmen were repairing a part of the old fort, they came across a section of the ancient cellar marked on the plans as a small dungeon. They were surprised to find only a blank wall where the

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dungeon was supposed to be. One of the engineers, more curious than the rest, spent some time examining the wall. Finally by the light of his torch, he found a small area which had been bricked up. He went to the head engineer and obtained permission to break through the wall. Several lanterns were brought down and a workman was set to chipping out the old mortar. An hour later, when he had removed several tiers of brick, the others held a lantern so that it would shine through the opening.

What the lantern revealed made them all join in demolishing the walled-up entrance into the dungeon. Twenty minutes later it was possible for the smallest man in the group to squeeze through the aperture.

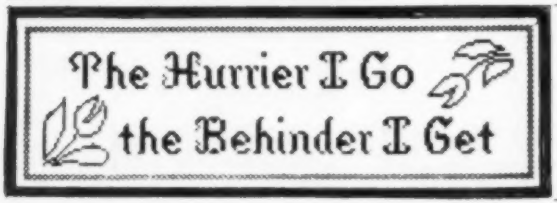
"It's a skeleton!" they hear him cry a moment later, and he rushed for the opening, leaving the lantern behind him.

Several of the others then pulled down the entire brick barrier and went into the dungeon where they saw a skeleton shackled to the floor with a few fragments of an 1812 army uniform clinging to the bones.

The remains could not be identified but they were given a military funeral and placed in the Castle Island cemetery in a grave marked UNKNOWN.

The Massie monument came to achieve a fame which attracted thousands of visitors to old Fort Independence each Sunday, especially after a bridge was built out to the island in 1891. But in 1892 the monument was moved, along with Massie's remains, across to Governor's Island, and set in a new cemetery there. Massie's skeleton was dug up again, however, in 1908, and taken, with the monument, down the bay to Deer Island to be placed in the officer's section of Resthaven Cemetery. Then, in 1939, Massie's bones were removed from the Deer Island grave, and taken, with his tombstone, across the state to Fort Devens, in Ayer, Massachusetts.

Thus, after his death, Massie became the Roving Skeleton of Boston Bay, a man who was buried four times in four different places within a period of 122 years. ●



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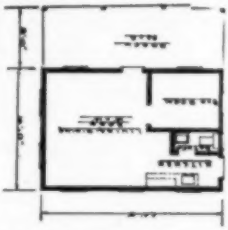

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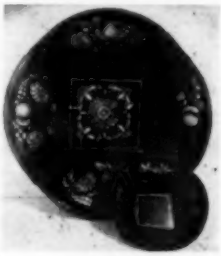

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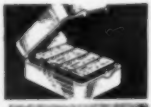

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Send 10c for color swatches. Free accessory folder on request.

North Truro, Mass.

Russian Easter

(*Continued from page 63*)

Easter feasts (as illustrated on page 63).

Many of the foods have the letters "XB" on them which stand for Christos Voskresse. Almost all the foods are surrounded by colorful Easter eggs.

Some of the Russian women, like Mrs. Barbara Belenkov, color their eggs by boiling them with onion skins. This gives the eggs a rich tan-red color. The eggs are also decorated with religious symbols, verses and designs.

The richness of the Easter foods is perhaps explained by the fact that during the Lenten period many Orthodox believers eat plain and tasteless foods—fish, kvas soup, black coffee, plain bread.

The last time many of the Russians ate butter, meat, sweets and eggs was during butter week (maslenitsa). A seasonal specialty then is the famed blini or pancake which is braised in butter and topped with caviar or smoked salmon and sour cream.

The Orthodox Lent begins roughly eight weeks before Easter. Its climax falls on Palm Saturday and Sunday—the weekend before Easter. Instead of palms, many of the churchgoers bring branches and twigs (pussy willows) to the church to be blest. There is a legend that these branches are put over one's bed at night, and anyone caught sleeping too late the next morning gives the early-risers the privilege of flogging him with his own branches.

The week just before Easter is known as

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The St. Alexander Nevesky's Church.

Passion Week. Services are frequent, and on Holy Thursday the yellow tapers are lit for the first time and carried to the church in paper lanterns. After the service they are put out and not lit again until Easter eve.

With the Easter services behind them, most families go home to elaborate feasts. Aside from the special Easter foods, there are homemade wines, vodka, native preserved mushrooms, and other Russian dishes.

The non-Russian residents of Richmond look forward each year to the exciting Easter celebration. One woman who runs the local bakery has learned to make the Russian foods.

"She makes a darn good kulichi," the Russian women say when they speak about her.

End

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Also manufacturers of cast iron modern and antique ranges, stoves and furnaces. Send for information.

PORTLAND STOVE FOUNDRY CO.
Portland, Me.

Acton

(Continued from page 69)

Keyes, 76; Jonathan Barker, 74, and Lemuel Hildreth, 70.

At 12 o'clock the procession moved down the road, and halted about half way to the burying ground, and there waited the arrival of the hearse and special escort. The two columns having met at the intersection of two roads leading back to the square, the Lowell Band played a dead march composed by Kurek, and the Boston Brass Band responded with "Peace, troubled soul."

The entire procession was now formed and proceeded by the upper road to the square, and halted on the west side of the monument. The coffin was removed from the hearse and placed on a rest near the monument, and a guard stationed round it. The lid was then raised, and all who were in the procession advanced singly to look upon the remains, and then spectators generally. In the meantime, a detachment of the Concord Artillery were firing minute guns in an adjacent field.

At 1 o'clock the coffin was placed in the tomb prepared in the base of the monument, the aperture left open for its admission was closed, and the procession was re-formed, and marched to Yale's large pavilion, which was erected in the field below, where an elegant dinner had been set for 1200 persons, by John Wright, of Boston.

On the right of the president were seated two revolutionary soldiers, who were engaged in the "Concord Fight" (whose portraits are given by the artist)—Dr. Amariah Preston, of Lexington, 94 years of age, and Benjamin Smith, of Wayland, aged 85. [*See page 69*]

Prayer was offered up by Rev. Mr. Frost, of Concord, chaplain of the day; and then was sung a portion of a hymn, written for the occasion, by the Rev. Mr. Durant.

Then followed the address by Governor Boutwell—a most able and eloquent production, in which he discussed the causes and consequences of the Revolution in a most statesmanlike manner, which met the unanimous approbation of the audience.

Next followed a poem by the Rev. Mr. Pierpont, describing the midnight march of the British, the battle, and the hot pursuit of the retreating British, all portrayed with graphic power.

The dinner was now attacked and hurried through on account of the lateness of the hour, and after thanks had been returned by the chaplain, the president proceeded to announce the regular toasts, nearly all of which had reference to some incident of the fight, or some brave officer or minute man who was engaged in it.

Speeches were made and sentiments given by Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, Judge Hoar, of Concord, Hon. Benjamin Thompson, of Charlestown, Hon. Robert Rantoul, Jr., of Beverly, Gen. Chandler, of Lexington, Col. Isaac H. Wright, of Lexington, and others.

Rev. Mr. Pierpont, referring to some impatience displayed at the length of his poem, gave as a sentiment the following couplet:

"Poets at dinners must learn to be brief,
Or their tongues will be beaten by cold tongues of beef."

• •

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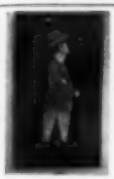

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JOHN TOOF'S WELL

(Continued from page 71)

have in reserve an inexhaustible supply of pure water to which they may freely resort."

It seems unusual that more corroborative historical information about such an achievement is not available. However, the beautiful granite libraries of Concord contain little else than the aforementioned description. One has to interview senior citizens for more data. Mayor Johnson, as we said before, likes to think of the man who drilled so deeply and so desperately as a rugged individualist. Other elder citizens of the city will admit, when pressed, that Toof was engaged at the turn of the century in a battle royal with the city's municipal water department which had come into operation about the time of the opening of his steam laundry.

The facts tend to indicate that at first Toof was reasonably happy because the Water Department had allowed him a special rate (although it is rumored that even then he had certain strong-worded feelings about the *quality* of the city's water). It was when the Water Department decided that Toof was using so much of the precious fluid for his laundering needs that the customary rate had to apply to him, too, that Toof blew his top. He refused to pay the regular consumer rate. When the city threatened to turn off his supply if he did not pay up, the battle was joined.

A tough-skinned Yankee, Toof decided to drill his own well. However, he had to drill that unprecedented 1325 agonizing feet through the solid granite and granitic schists of New Hampshire's hard subsurface before he reached water in quantity. Stubborn as he was, Toof went broke in an operation that must also have nearly broken his flinty old heart.

According to Toof's grandson, Paul H. Blaisdell, now a resident of Connecticut, "the well was of the artesian type. Who did the drilling is something I do not know. However, the job was beset with many problems, chief of which was the hardness of the various layers of granite encountered in the drilling. I was told that every then-known type of drillhead (there were reportedly no drilling rigs in New England at the time and it is presumed that the rig may have been brought in from the Pennsylvania oil fields), was either dulled or broken in the process and on at least two occasions consideration was

Mrs. John Durrell (left), now 89, started working for John Toof at age 12 or 13!

given to abandonment of the job. I was also told that this job led to the shaping of new drill forms and methods until, finally, the vein of water was encountered."

Mr. Blaisdell writes that the water, when finally obtained, was not "hard" and was well suited to laundering purposes. As a matter of fact, it was the source of supply for the laundry for some years after Toof's death, until the 1920's. Blaisdell recalls that as a youngster "I would stop at the laundry on a hot day and get a drink of the extremely cold water."

In the 1920's, the cost of pumping directly from the well forced its use on a standby basis while the city water supply was once again brought in. The well was finally capped in the mid-1930's. Once after that, grandson Blaisdell opened it and tested it, "but we did not put it back into use for laundering purposes."

So the "spite well," as it was sometimes called, did serve its purpose and, we may presume, the Toof Laundry eventually earned back the money expended in the drilling of Concord's fantastic well. In time, the old laundry was torn down to make room for a parking lot in the heart of the city, but the exact location of the capped well has been preserved, as shall presently be shown.

(Continued on next page)

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A new laundry, now known as the Reed-Toof Laundry on South Main Street and managed by J. Walter Thomas, was built in 1945, "because we wanted more modern quarters. Before the old one was demolished," says Mr. Thomas, "it was used by the Lincoln Furniture Company for a warehouse."

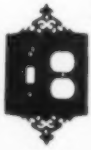
In Mr. Thomas' office there is a series of photos showing the original laundry divided into: office, flat work department, wash room, boiler room, marking department, finishing department, and engine room. This laundry was variously known as Toof Laundry Co., Reed Laundry Co., and, finally, The Reed-Toof Laundry Co. (1946 to present).

One of Concord's senior citizens who recalls a bit about the original period is Mrs. Ada M. Ericson. She writes that at some period in his life John Toof became blind "and he traveled from his house to the laundry accompanied by his 'pug' dog, one of whose puppies was my beloved pet."

Mrs. Ericson's father, Frank A. Martin, drove one of the Toof laundry wagons. This was the era before the automobile. "His delivery wagon was painted with fancy rural scenes. My father drove a good many years—until the automobile came and he either went back to horse and wagon or worked inside. He did not like delivering by auto."

Mrs. Ericson's father delivered many a load of Toof's fancy artesian well water during his rounds. As a matter of fact, there are some people in Concord today who complain that the city water is not as palatable as it might be and they intimate that perhaps it would be a good thing if the old Toof well was reactivated.

Admittedly, this may be an honest association with fond memories of long ago. G. Arthur Faneuf, superintendent of the present City Water Department, says in



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Prepaid. Polished Brass Double Price.
SEND 10c for 120 p. CATALOG
Spencer
RANCOCAS WOODS, N. J.

defense, that "we have had more satisfied customers in the last year than ever before."

Another of Concord's senior citizens who remembers the original Toof Laundry very well is Mrs. John Durrell of South State Street. Now eighty-nine, Mrs. Durrell worked at the laundry many years. "I was born in Iowa and when my mother died I came east here. I went to work at the laundry when I was twelve or thirteen and remember it well. Mr. Toof made it a habit to give all the help a picnic each year. We gathered together for the occasion in Penacook."

Mrs. Durrell was Mary Jane Goodwin before she married John Durrell in Concord. "I still have the set of dishes that the laundry gave me when we got married."

So the story of Fighting-mad John Toof and his extraordinary well is part of the splendid warp and woof of Concord's proud history. Today, old John would probably turn over in his grave if he knew about the latest episode in the long history of his deep deep well. Recently uncapped, the well shaft is being used for propagation test purposes by a leading New England electronics company to determine how far voice and coded messages may be transmitted deep underground as a measure of defense in the event of war!

The reason for using the old well holes is to save drilling costs. The rate for drilling in the subterranean strata today is put variously at from $20 to $30 per foot. At this rate, drilling the same hole as John Toof did back in the 1890's would cost more than $25,000!

If there is a message in all this for us today, it might be to face the future with the same grit and determination as did John H. Toof, stubborn driller of the deepest known artesian well through New England granite. •

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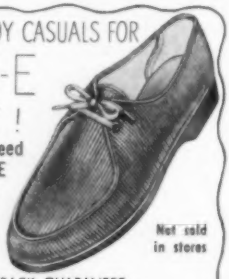

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ORGANIC GARDENING

(Continued from page 73)

for Memorial Day week end we carried a flush toilet, pump and small engine. I installed the toilet in one corner of the bedroom and my wife hung some heavy curtains around it. That was all we had time for during that trip, but we had no near neighbors and the laws about such things were rather lax at that time. The house sat well up off the ground on posts. The next week-end we would dig a cesspool and finish up the job. It was late when I finished the installation, but we ate supper before we started home. The last thing I ate was a slice of watermelon and I flushed the seeds down the flush before we left.

The next morning the boss called me into his office and told me that I was going to the Pacific Coast and up to Alaska in two days. He added, 'You can take your wife if you want to.' He was filled with optimism, World War Two had not begun to show. The world had been, 'Made Safe for Democracy,' now was the time to expand in a big way. Orders were orders and two days later we were on the train headed west. We stopped in every city and spent from one day to a week calling on possible customers. You can eat up a lot of time in our West, up and down the Coast and into Alaska. It was well into August when we finished Alaska and the most impressive thing that we had seen was the Mendenhall Glacier. I bought that picture and I picked up that stone at the foot of the glacier.

We got home just in time to spend Labor Day week-end at camp. While it had been an interesting summer we both felt a little cheated to have lost the entire season from our camp. We started early Saturday morning. As we drove in towards the camp we could see that a striking change had taken place around it since we last saw it. All around the house where only white sand and a few straws of coarse

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beach grass had been, was a lush, green growth of vines and they were watermelon vines beyond question. We had no near neighbors, but there were tracks in the sand and no melons of any size in sight. The vines came out from under the house on every side. Evidently every seed put down the flush had sprouted and grown. Our big regret was that someone else had had the pleasure of eating all the melons.

While I was putting the car in the garage my wife unlocked the door and stepped into the house. She stopped as if frozen and when I came up loaded with provisions for three days she said, 'Drop that stuff and come in here and look.' I didn't drop anything until I got well inside, and then I saw what had caused her excitement.

Slithering out from under the corner curtains was a watermelon vine which crossed the floor, climbed up over a chair onto the bed, and there, in almost the exact center of the bed, were three of the finest watermelons that we had ever seen.

While we were unpacking and cleaning up we used that stone to hold down a pile of paper napkins or they would all have blown out the door. The next day we had callers and, of course, they had to hear the story of the melons and sample them. When I started handing out the big slices my wife suddenly glanced apprehensively at the curtained corner and exclaimed with fervor, 'Now for heaven's sake don't anyone swallow one of the seeds. It makes me shudder just to think what might happen to you.' " ●

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NARY A ONE
MIGHT'S WELL ADMIT IT JOHN, YOU CAN'T OUT-RUN 'EM LIKE YOU USED TO
JOHN CROSBY PRABLE (AGE 101) OF WOOLWICH, ME DIDN'T GET A DEER THIS YEAR. HUNTED IN WOOLWICH, ALNA, ARROWSIC AND NO. WHITEFIELD
FIRE AT ANTRIM, N.H. — FAMILY SAVES T V SET
WHY SHORE! I'M IN FAVOR OF THAT — PROVIDED WE CAN PICK THE WIMIN OURSELVES
DURING THE BIG FREEZE A VISITOR TO AN OLD FASHIONED HOUSE IN HADLYME, CONN., FIXED TWO CHAIRS AND SOME BLANKETS FOR A WARM NIGHT — BUT HE DIDN'T FIGURE ON THE CATS — THEY THOUGHT HE DID IT FOR THEM.
JUDITH ROCKWELL:
HOLDEN, MASS. GRANGE HAS DEBATE: "RESOLVED THAT WOMEN SHOULD ACCOMPANY MEN ON THEIR FIRST HABITATION TO THE MOON"
WELL IF THAT DON'T BEAT THE DUTCH
—AND GOOD RIDDANCE
RUBBISH COLLECTION
FRIENDSHIP, ME., LOBSTER FISHERMAN SPENT THE WINTER CONVERTING HIS OUTBOARD MOTOR INTO A GADGET TO WISH HIS DORY OVER THE ICE. BY THE TIME HE FINISHED IT THE ICE IN THE BAY HAD MELTED.
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YANKEE TINTINNABULATIONS
NEWS ITEMS FROM READERS WELCOME

YOU MADE SO MUCH DANG NOISE I COULDN'T SLEEP A WINK
WHO'S THE GIRL FRIEND BERT- TAKIN' HER TO THE DRIVE-IN ?
ADDISON, ME, MAN LOST IN THE WOODS FOUND A CABIN AND SPENT THE NIGHT IN IT - MEANWHILE THE WHOLE TOWN HAD TURNED OUT TO LOOK FOR HIM = THEY SHOUTED, RANG BELLS AND SHOT OFF GUNS ALL NIGHT LONG!
CLAYTON H. SMALL
DURING THE COLD SPELL A DAIRY FARMER UP IN ST. ALBANS TOOK A CALF TO TOWN IN THE FRONT SEAT OF HIS TRUCK
WHAT DO THE NEIGHBORS THINK I'M DOING THIS FOR- EXERCISE ?
WELL SIR, MY GREAT GRAND PAW BOUGHT IT FROM THE PERKINSES - 'TWAS OLD THEN! I'D HATE TO PART WITH IT; ER- IT EVEN SMELLS OLD ..
ST. ALBANS VT. WOMAN, 78, LOCKED HERSELF OUT ON HER PORCH IN 20 DEGREE WEATHER: SO SHE WALKED AND WAVED A BROOM FOR TWO HOURS UNTIL SOMEBODY NOTICED HER.
SWANTON COURIER
NO MORE DOCTOR'S BILLS, MA: I PICKED UP A WHOLE BARREL OF PILLS!
STURBRIDGE VILLAGE CORP. IS LOOKING FOR AN OLD BARN
HELLO OPERATOR! THIS PHONE OWES ME A DIME :: DO I GET IT OR DON'T I ?
DRUGS SALESMAN WRECKS CAR NEAR WELLS, ME. STUFF SCATTERED ALL OVER ROUTE #1.
AH- AH-AH-HORASHOO... WHOSE IDEA WAS THIS?
GIRLS GO SWIMMING AT PLEASANT POINT, CUSHING-MAINE JAN 2ND
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Swopper's Column

(Continued from page 11)

Hand printing press 6x10 (Kelsey) complete with type, etc., for Photo (Movie) or Hi-Fi. A642 Utah

Have old postcards from all over world. Northern Massachusetts sea captain's Meterology records from 1836 giving temp. 3 times a day and conditions. Also clippings from old newspapers 1700's. A643 Mass.

Wanted: 10-8 and 7 inch souvenir state plates, also souvenir spoons. A644 N. J.

Offer pair of earrings, or something of equal value, for ideas (fancy work) using men's old fashioned wide neckties. A645 Wisc.

Have Brownie Hawkeye, flash, & bag, wrought iron and brass wood basket, modern floor lamp (like new) for marked white ironstone, marked bells, or 2 nice wagon seats. A646 N. J.

Have new model airplane to build, N. Amer. B-25 Mitchell, flannel flags, earrings. Want brand new Queen Bess teaspoons. A647 N. Y.

Have ladies green strapless formal and stole (size 9). Want Persian kitten. A648 Ill.

Have matched pair antique cast iron eagle plaques to set in fireplace 14½ x 17 inches. Want good Guitar, pair of Koch Recorders or B&L 7 x 50 binoculars. A649 Ind.

Will swop a calico replica of my great Grandmothers dust cap for your old player piano rolls, and old phonograph records. A650 Pa.

Have Ship's Lantern, railroad lantern, violin, camera, typewriter, electric broiler, rotisserie, shaver, iron, outboard motor, mans watch, ladies watch, aprons, rag rugs. A651 N. Y.

Have two druggists scales—'old' with weights; collection of crochet books, costume jewelry. Many, many pearls, beads of all kinds, unstrung. Want picture postcards pre-1900, first day covers, stamps, or any material used postally before 1900, scrap books, antique buttons, Confederate items. A652 N. Y.

Violin, rocks, earrings, shoes, old buttons, revolver for old picture buttons, minerals, jewelry. A653 Calif.

For Graphotype, meat slicer, Venetian blinds, Polaroid camera what do you want? Have sign press, colored glass slides of Paul & Virginia; small tapestry loom, Indian bead loom. A654 N. H.

Ladies green spring coat size 18, boys size 12 sweater, women's shoes, jackets for spring, size 32 A bras. Want ladies umbrella, new handbag. A655 N. J.

Buffalo pottery collectors: will swop my duplicate pieces for your duplicates. Have you a Puritan Pitcher? A656 Pa.

Have valuable 100% wool handknit Afghan for small antique lamps, S&P shakers. A657 Mass.

Have picture projector, duplicator, inlaid canes, albums, old passports, foreign bills and lots of things. Want pocket watch, binoculars, telescope. A658 N. C.

Have two cream pitchers from "Old Man of the Mountains" teaset. Want one pitcher for a sugar bowl. A659 Conn.

Swop brand new Smith-Corona 10-day Touch Typing Course, 2 phonograph records. Want man's wrist watch. A660 Ill.

Record album (two records) of over 300 calls of Song birds, new. Could use railroad watch. A661 N. Y.

Wanted, one, or up to six, white china knobs, original, used on inside shutters 75 to 100 years ago, 1¼ in. diam., 1 inch deep. A662 Conn.

Have man's Hamilton wristwatch, vest pocket radio, Watermanns fountain pen, pocket adding machine, Little Ben alarm clock. A663 N. J.

(Continued on next page)

GRANNY TOBY PITCHER

4¾ INCHES HIGH Just like your own Granny, typically New England. Made in Italy from our own original design. she's in charming natural colors. Flowers trimming her hat create a handy pouring spout. Her size makes her practical for holding cream, syrup, or flowers from your garden. A collector's piece. Price 4.95 ppd.

MY SISTER AND I

21 Elm St. —Gifts— Malone, N. Y.

ATTENTION!

SPRINGTIME MEANS GARDEN TIME! BRAND NEW—A TOOL FOR EVERY HOME OWNER! THE UNIQUE "HICKOX CIRCLE HOE"!

The magic weeder! A superb cultivator for flower beds, thins flower beds and transplants. The first and only hand tool that cultivates the soil! Pulling blade through soil cuts weeds off underground and leaves soil in place; It's a knife under the soil! It also has many other uses. Can be resharpened with stone or file. The red tip on the handle makes it hard to lose.

Send $1 To: (No C.O.D.'s please)

R & C SALES COMPANY

P. O. Box 4226, Dept. Y, Rochester 11, N. Y.

and we will send postpaid

Wanted: old-fashioned speaking trumpet in working condition. Will swop various hand tools in good shape. A664 Mass.

Have many old postcards and views, campaign buttons, big old hand grinder, also copies old "Broom" magazine of the "Twenties." Want copies "Salmagundi." A665 Pa.

Have official programme of George V coronation. 1911 with 4 invitations to view. Also "Songs of Seven" with 32 engravings. Want old jewelry especially mosaic pins or earrings. A666 Conn.

Have 5000 picture postcard collection, 1907-1935. Will swop for Polaroid camera in perfect condition; antique buttons; or old dolls. A667 N. Y.

Have metal frame adjustable to dry sweater on, pair frames to dry stockings on, leather jacket, electric corn popper. A668 Mass.

Have 4 sets of platform scales up to 250 pounds. Sump pump, feed grinder 4 inch by 4 inch opening, dynamite machine that will mix 1200 pounds an hour. A669 N. Y.

Wanted: fur stole, or mink coat, in condition to make a stole, dinner ring, with or without stones, prefer white gold, for handloomed bags, hooked rugs, Zircon rings, sleigh robe, antique accordian. A670 Tenn.

Have ceramics handmade. Want 3 or 4 ply black yarn, also have large show dahlias, double blue and white spruce trees, everbearing raspberry plants, want 3½ yds. or more dress or drapery materials, stationery, woolens for braiding or hooking rugs, fish'ng line 10-15 lb. strength. A671 Pa.

Have U. S. view postcards for U. S. State Capitol building postcards. A672 Conn.

Wanted: medals, badges, C. W. items, pins, discharge papers, auto prints, New York Worlds Fair items. Have music, belting, viewcards, box cameras, old wallpaper, toys. A673 N. J.

Have European match box labels, small size cleaned man's pigskin gloves for silver napkin rings, Arizona green cave crystals, fans, hatpins, thimbles. A674 Conn.

Have fine strong French army binoculars; nice running 8-day antique pocket man's watch and a lovely lady's wristwatch. A675 N. Y.

Have eight ounces of black nylon yarn and six ounces of yellow nylon yarn for book on lettering, type faces or cookbook. A676 Ill.

Will swop two antique postcard albums, excellent condition for antique lockets. A677 N. Y.

Wanted: Beautiful fur and plush robes. Fur coat with wide collar. Also stole, scarves, and muff. What do you want? A678 Vt.

Will swop postcards "Indiana" for others, especially interested in Covered Bridge cards, but will swop others. A679 Ind.

Will swop 5" stack of Canadian postal cards, mostly unstamped, for stamped American cards before 1900. Also have small quantity Bermuda and foreign cards; same swop. A680 N. H.

Have Florence 2 burner heater, steel bed with coil springs. Want small portable radio and guns. A681 N. H.

Clicker QUICK-CHEK
A PERFECT GIFT

TALLY YOUR SUPERMARKET spending as you shop with the Clicker QUIK-CHEK. Unique device helps you keep a running account of your purchases, verify the accuracy of the check-out clerk. Only one hand needed to operate its buttons.

$2.00 postpaid—No C.O.D.'s

THE LOB CO.

P. O. Box 7-Y Greenwood, Mass.

SKINFOIL
prevents "SKIN" on PAINT

Use ALL the paint in the can—

right down to the last brushful . . . open and close the can over and over for months without annoying "skin" forming on surface of remaining paint. Simply float a few drops of SKINFOIL on paint (and putty, too) after using and before sealing can. Open it months later and paint or putty will be fresh and ready to use, without removal of time-and-money-wasting "skin." 2 oz. plastic squeeze dropper bottle, good for 20 gallons paint, $1. Money back if SKINFOIL fails after following simple directions on bottle. Send ck. or M. O. to: **Chair-Loc Co., Dept. Y461, Lakehurst, N. J.**

SAWYER'S CRYSTAL BLUE
Bleaches and Blues
Gives the Finishing Touch
DOUBLE STRENGTH
Put up in Sprinkling Top Bottles

SEW? JOIN SAMPLE CLUB

Send 25c for membership and samples. Receive FREE 16-page Bargain Sewing Catalog.
HOME-SEW, INC., BETHLEHEM 38, PA.

GENUINE DEERSKIN MOCCASINS $7.95

ppd.

WRAP YOUR FEET IN A BUNDLE OF CLOUDS! Thrill to the exquisite pleasure of genuine Deerskin moccasins! Cradles and pampers your feet in soft, luxurious comfort . . . just like walking on air! Superbly fashioned by Maine craftsmen from Deerskin and full deerskin lined . . . with heavy cushion foam insole to leave you always feeling refreshed and relaxed. Durable, light composition sole for added walking pleasure. Guaranteed to please! **MEN'S & WOMEN'S SIZES 3 TO 15, ALL WIDTHS.** A factory-to-you special value!

MAINE LEATHERCRAFTERS, DEPT. YE, HARRISON, MAINE.

"SLIP-ONS"—STOP BLINDING LIGHT $1

Optically approved — Precision Plastic

"EASY-ON" Vinyl SHADES, Patent tube stop GLARE $1

BOTH excellent for Driving, TV, Reading—without glasses use cord.

Ear Loks, stop glasses sliding, 2 pr. $1
Recline-Specs—Read lying down $5
America's Highest Standard Sun Glasses —CALOBAR—Men or women $7.50

Free Bristol Shade with each item—Catalogue—Service—

H. W. HAMMOND
EYESHIELD CO. OF MASS.
67 Hyslop Rd. Brookline 46, Mass.

U. S. GOLD COINS

WANTED BY COLLECTOR. I WILL PAY MORE FOR THESE COINS THAN ANY DEALER POSSIBLY CAN. ALSO NEED OTHER RARE U. S. COINS AND CURRENCY FOR MY COLLECTION. WRITE ME BEFORE SELLING.

Ref.: Industrial Bank of Commerce, Brooklyn, N. Y.
BEN WEISINGER, 249 MARCY AVE. BROOKLYN 11, N.Y.

SURPRISE YOUR CHILD

with a letter from the Birthday Fairy!

Send name, age and birthdate—
Enclose $1.00 —

POLLY FESSENDEN
106 Parker Street, East Longmeadow, Mass.

LOBSTER BOUYS — MINIATURES AUTHENTIC SHAPES & COLORS $2.00 a PAIR—6 PAIR for $10.00

prepaid

J. W. PERRY — 7 SEABROOK ROAD
HYANNIS - MASS.

TWIN-GRILL YEAR 'ROUND BARBECUE

For indoor fireplace or outside patio. Compact, easy-to-use, long-lasting, black finished cast iron, twin-grill. 11½ x 25 x 30" high, heavily constructed. Draft control. Nickel-plated grids easily cleaned. Less Rotisserie, spit and leg extenders; **$14.95**

$15.95 less Rotisserie and spit; $24.95 as shown.

Shpg. Chgs. collect.

NEWBURY TWIN GRILL Dept. Y-4 Goshen, N.Y.

CALL TO THE COLORS! Loyal Sons and Daughters of the South proclaim yourselves . . . even in "Yankee"! "REBELITE" musical cigarette pocket lighter (left photo) plays DIXIE in full musical glory. Commands attention, loudly and clearly. Full color Confederate flag on a sky-blue background makes this an unusual gift for anyone! Concealed music box, quality-engineered, gift boxed! Sure-fire charmer. $6.95 ppd. $1 extra for initials. Non-musical, slim "REBELITE" (right photo) proudly displays full color Confederate flag. Engine-turned aluminum-case, quality features, gift-boxed! $2.50 ppd. PAUL-BROWN CO., DEPT. C-2, CHESTNUT HILL, MASS.

UNIQUE DESIGN

By Vermont Craftsman

—

For the Small Fry

2 sturdy chairs, seat 10½" high, Table 24" x 24", top 18½" high. Made from Eastern White Pine with Plywood table top. Excellent for lawn or home, unfinished, ready to paint or stain.

SPECIAL $12.95—Exp. collect, no C.O.D.'s

7-E BUILDING MATERIALS

TOY DEPT. Danville, Vermont

Small Lots of Dry Lumber

CHERRY PINE MAPLE
BIRCH CLEAR SPRUCE
Let us know what you want
N. W. FELLOWS AND SON
Pittsfield, Vt.

FIRE!

I Remember the Fire Horses

by JACK JOHNSON

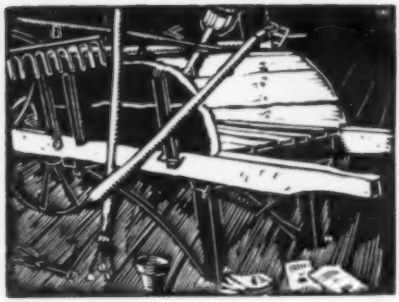
IT WAS LONG, LONG AGO WHEN the fire horses were on the American scene. I remember them. They are among the few brightest memories of my childhood. Those handsome and intelligent horses, always so eagerly responsive to their work, were regarded in a heroic light by everyone who watched them galloping with all their spirit and vigor to a fire scene. People stopped and gazed after them; everyone glowed with admiration. I remember, too, the tradition: once a fire horse, always a fire horse. To explain this:

"1908—Answering Alarm 18—Lowery driving" is caption we found on this old photo.

When one of them left his or her fire station home, no longer able to keep up the speedy pace, it didn't always mean that the old faithful would be retired to green pastures of some farm. Often they would continue working—as grocery wagon, milk wagon or even (sadly enough) junk wagon horses.

But it seemed their ears and spirit were (*Continued on page 106*)

"They had fast-speaking names - Jim, Duke, Ned..."



(EDITED BY JEAN BURDEN)

Poetry

LIZARD
by RAYMOND HOLDEN

The uses of man's flesh are few
Compared to what his mind may do.
Although there may be fifty ways
Of lighting love's important blaze
The surest, surely, is the mind's
That, in default of other kinds
Of tinder, bow-stick, spark and match
Can cause the unlikeliest fuel to catch,
Can turn even lizards, plain as sand,
To things for man to understand
And everything that breathes or moves
To a fragment of the one he loves.

SIGHT WITHOUT CYPHER
by HILDEGARDE FLANNER

How gaunt, how glorious, how quickly gone,
How bright and bereft what it has flared upon.
Vision and flash that shine into my being.
Nature cannot compute this thing for me,
From convex crust of earth this fleeing
Of light shoots indivisibility
Where be no fraction known

No wedge or plane where puny mind can fit,
Or rainbow's violet compass measure it.
If I am human and I see a light,
All of my days I cannot hope to tell
What chosen star exploded for this sight,
Or whether it shone from heaven or from hell.

STREET-GAMES
by EVE TRIEM

Spring comes as a calligraphy of wings
And wood-dove's liquid bell-tones on the air.
And all the games beloved of former springs
Are brought by children to a sunlit square.
Under the honey-locust they draw lines
Bearing dim cousinship to Euclid's dream—
Blending the Zodiac with Greek designs.
The sidewalks glimmer a chained number-scheme.

Small laughing girls, their rapt and twinkling feet
Shadowed by the green-flame tasseled trees,
Tap out the rhythms known other centuries
In palace courtyard, in hot city street.
As in Nineveh . . . before Troy fell in flames . . .
They hop and skip in a garland of games.

THE APOLOGIST
by HANSON KELLOGG

My relatives bear the robes of state,
Pectoral crosses, sacred rings . . .
Fool and dwarf, peacock and ape
Convulse with posturings and wit
This retinue of kings.
I study the temporal use of Writ.

My relatives sport most brilliant stuffs.
In the newest model coach they're driven.
And when they find they have had enough
Of all the kingdoms Christ was shown
They mount direct to Heaven.
Their bread becomes my precious stone.

The peacock I, my great fan plucked,
Feather by feather, for use as quills.
The stars in their houses, the sin of luck
I damn with one pen, with another I praise
My relatives' holy and secular skills,
Hymning our Coronation Days

Before I mention the Dies Irae . . .
I, the dwarf and the bitter fool,
The sedulous, weeping ape. For the fire
Of banner and brass always inflames
My eyes and blood, while my brain stays cool.
My relatives' honorific names

Echo through halls as hollow as their
Royal decrees, their public smiles.
But regal halls! Young, resplendent heirs
Dazzle and court me deaf and blind.
I, the prophet, through country miles
Of the cactus and sand that is my mind

Pant, honored, on. Nor look behind.

FOR SPRING'S BEST BUY, SAYS MAMA KANGAROO.

FIND A LAZY DOLLAR BILL

AND— you will receive the next 5 issues of YANKEE —

AND— A BEAUTIFUL FASHION PRINT reproduced in 4 colors — 6" x 9" —

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THE BEAUTIFUL COLOR PHOTOGRAPH PRINTS which appear in this magazine each month as a center spread. These are shipped in a tube and ready to frame. There is now a selection of **25 different New England scenes** available — each at 25¢ **postpaid.**

SEND FOR LIST — and for the list of YANKEE's **bargains in books.**

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A FLETCHER FLASHBACK . . . NUMBER ONE IN A SERIES DEPICTING THE HOMES OF FAMOUS NEW ENGLANDERS

PRESCOTT

"This place is a cottage," the famous historian wrote to his publisher about 100 years ago, "what Lady Emeline Stuart Wortley calls in her **Travels** 'a charming country villa' at Nahant, where for more than twenty years I have passed the summer months. It is called 'Fitful Head' and Norna's was not wilder."

William H. Prescott, whose grandfather commanded the American troops at Bunker Hill, had three homes: one on Beacon Street in Boston in which he spent the six winter months; this one at Nahant; and the ancestral farm at Pepperell.

How unfortunate, come April of each year, for him there were no **Fletcher** stores to turn to for **Colonial** paints (interior and exterior), wall papers, lamps and lamp shades. Because **Fletcher's** manufactures its own paints, its prices are 30-40% lower — an extra reason for having the best right from the maker.

To make and keep your home **Colonial, FLETCHER'S** is the store to use.

(Sorry we don't send wall paper samples but will gladly submit color chips upon request)

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